FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 193 *4 October 1985*

ARGENTINA

Government Opposes Adoption of U.S. GATT Proposal B 1
Anonymous Manifesto Warns Court Officials B 1
Former Intelligence Secretariat Chief Interviewed B 2
LA PRENSA Questions India's Nonaligned Posture [27 Sep] B 2
Science, Technology Agreement Signed With Guyana B 3

BOLIVIA

Report on Government-COB Dialogue, Agreement C 1
Briefs: Supreme Military Tribunal President; Relations With Antigua, Barbuda; Ambassadorial Designations; CBF General Manager; Cofadena Manager C 2

BRAZIL

Itamaraty Condemns Israeli Attack on PLO [O GLOBO 2 Oct] D 1
SNI Claims Sarney's Daughter Linked To PCB [VEJA 25 Sep] D 1
Army Minister Views Armed Forces Role [FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 22 Sep] D 1

CHILE

Coal Miners Stage First Strike Under Pinochet E 1
Armed Forces Increases Equipment, Personnel E 1
President Denies Remarks on National Accord E 2
Cuadra Comments E 2
General Leigh Interviewed by COSAS [16 Sep] E 3
Detained Opposition Leaders Issue Prison Document E 6
LATE REPORT: Charges Dropped Against Seguel, Others E 7

COLOMBIA

32 Soldiers, 24 Guerrillas Killed in Last 24 Hours F 1
Ecopetrol Tanks Burn; 470-Million Peso Loss F 1
Briefs: 1986 Budget Approved F 1

MEXICO

Japan's Abe Reiterates Aid Offer During Visit M 1
Death Toll From Earthquake Rises to 5,526 M 1

PANAMA

New Cabinet Members, Others Appointed N 1
Cocina Calls for 3 Oct National Civic Strike N 2
Student Group Supports Strike [EXTRA 30 Sep] N 3
Spadafora Probe Demanded [EXTRA 2 Oct] N 3
Various Groups Refuse To Strike [MATUTINO 3 Oct] N 3
Liberal Vanguard Demands Noriega's Removal [EXTRA 3 Oct] N 4
PALA Urges 'Harmonious, Coordinated' Efforts N 5
Liberal Party Communique Supports Del Valle N 6
Troop Movements Observed in Puerto Armuelles [EXTRA 3 Oct] N 6

CENTRAL AMERICA

EL SALVADOR

Reportage on Ines Duarte Kidnapping P 1
Castillo Front Announces Demands P 1
Government Expects New Contacts [EL MUNDO 2 Oct] P 1
Four Political Prisoners Released P 2
Released Pilot To Be Repatriated P 3
Guerrillas' Whereabouts Sought P 3
FMLN-FDR Letter Proposes Transition Government P 4

HONDURAS

Note Rejects Sandinist Contra Allegations P 5
Ministry Statement Raps Anti-Suazo 'Campaign' P 6
Planning Official Reports on European Tour P 6

NICARAGUA

Government Bans Deferred Broadcast of Mass [ACAN] P 7
Tirado Lopez Outlines 'Survival Economy' P 8
Jaime Wheelock Comments on Cotton Disease [LA PRENSA 30 Sep] P 8
LA PRENSA Ponders U.S. Invitation to Legislators [26 Sep] P 9
Commentary Termed 'Open Confession' P 10
Misatan Leader on Atlantic Autonomy Plan P 11
Leader Urges Indians' Exemption From SMP P 12

CUBA

Malmierca Warns of South African-Angolan War Q 1
Commentary Hits S. Africa Policy Q 1
Foreign Minister Urges Debt Cancellation at UN Q 2
Ministry Statement on Israeli Attack on PLO Q 2
Guamao Defensive Exercise To Be Held Mid-October Q 3

CARIBBEAN

BAHAMAS

Pindling Attends Commonwealth Finance Meeting S 1

BARBADOS

Barrow Discusses Debt Problem, Unemployment S 1

DOMINICA

Prime Minister Leaves for 3-Week Tour S 2

GRENADA

Queen Elizabeth To Open Session of Parliament S 2

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Oil Credit Facility to Guyana Suspended S 2

GUYANA

Labor Movement Struggle Postpones Conference T 1

OTHER COUNTRIES

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Judges Granted Wage Hike, End 3-Month Strike V 1

ECUADOR

Government To Join Contadora Support Group V 1
Crude Oil Price Rises to $26.23 per Barrel V 1

GOVERNMENT OPPOSED ADOPTIONS OF U.S. GATT PROPOSAL

PY031251 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0221 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] Geneva, 2 Oct (TELAM) -- Argentina opposes the growing possibility of the adoption of a U.S. proposal to introduce the services sector -- banks and insurance, telecommunications and software interests, among others -- into the eight GATT Multilateral Negotiations to be held in 1986.

Argentine delegate Osvaldo Lopez Noguerol pointed out before the GATT representatives special session that Buenos Aires opposes any negotiations exceeding the rights and obligations clearly established in the 1946 regulations. Lopez said that for a country which is deeply indebted and confronting serious financial obligations, the servicing of which is compromising social peace and coexistence, foreign trade requires increased exports to produce the necessary resources within a stable international trade. He said that the highly industrialized countries have not fulfilled the commitments they made during the 1983 UNCTAD meeting. The Argentine delegate added that this is why Argentina is demanding a structural readjustment of the economies and means of production of some developed countries in order to have rules of competition for trade in all goods and primary and agricultural products. He said that the drop in international trade is causing concern.

ANONYMOUS MANIFESTO WARNS COURT OFFICIALS

PY012128 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2140 GMT 30 Sep 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 Sep (DYN) -- An anonymous manifesto massively distributed by mail, whose characteristic is a letterhead reading "Argentine Navy" and which is signed "commandos" bearing the names of seamen killed by the guerrillas, is warning court members [as received] that "any falsehood, neglect, or subservience" in the trial of Navy personnel "will be punished by death."

It was learned that the manifesto was received today through the mail by judges, court members, attorneys, and news media, including DYN. The manifesto is dated 16 September and according to the postmark mailed on 26 September from one of the mail boxes in the central post office building.

The manifesto lashes out aginst "the despicable attitudes of prosecutor Julio Strassera," accusing him of "having overlooked the vile killing of Paulo Lambruschini and tarnishing the name of Lieutenant Oscar Mayol" during his performance at the federal court.

Following several exclamation marks, under the headline "Final Point," the manifesto states that "any judge or court officials signing or participating in a proceeding against Navy personnel will have to assume responsibility for his actions" and that "we announce beforehand that falsehood, neglect, and subservience will be punished by death."

Elsewhere, the manifesto mentions "the cruel aggression of pseudojournalists from the press, radio, and the television (many of whom are stalwarts of the process)" and states that "we are not concerned over the different (?enemies) of the Navy" and that "we will still keep recent photos of many of them." Following the statement "You are all warned," the manifesto is signed by the self-styled commandos Hermes Quijada, Paula Lambruschini, Lieutenant Mayol, Admiral Berisso, Captain Burgos, Captain Basso, Admiral Brown Organization, Commander Poggi, Lieutenant Barattero, Second corporal Grimaldi, Second Noncommissioned Officer Benitez, Noncommissioned Officer Yabor, and Noncommissioned Officer Gatelli.

FORMER INTELLIGENCE SECRETARIAT CHIEF INTERVIEWED

PY021415 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0026 GMT 1 Oct 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 Sep (DYN) — Roberto Pena, former head of the Secretariat for State Intelligence, SIDE, has said that during his administration "we obtained some information about certain corrupt union leaders who had grown rich." He added that "I do not know what happened" after the SIDE passed this information to the Labor Ministry. Pena indicated that in his opinion both Raul Guglielminetti and Anibal Gordon "are unimportant people" and "mercenaries who hire out to whoever pays best," but he declined to specify who had "hired" the services of these people.

In a lengthy interview granted to the Argentine PLAYBOY magazine, Pena revealed that when he took over the SIDE in 1983, "there were ideological files written from subjective viewpoints." He confirmed that these files have not been destroyed and "are still there." He explained that "sometimes at the request of interested parties answers to the charges contained inthe files were added to the dossiers," but the files have not been destroyed "because that would have meant going through all the files, and it is easier to just ignore them." He went on to say that "there are approximately 1 million dossiers of this type," adding that during his administration"very few were added," one case being "the Moon sect after it appeared in Argentina."

After admitting that no sooner had he taken over, "attempts were made to hide things from me or deceive me, but these attempts did not succeed," Pena said that the people who were working at the SIDE "had acquired habits and customs incompatible with the democratic system."

In response to a question, Pena reaffirmed that "we obtained information about certain corrupt labor leaders who had grown rich, we passed this information to the appropriate agency, that is, to the Labor Ministry, but after that I do not know what happened." He explained that "I used this information basically to back up my thesis that the labor structure had to be changed."

Pena said that Guglielminetti and Gordon "are unimportant people who have no power and who are merely hired hands. As far as I am concerned, these guys are just mercenaries who hire out to whoever pays best. They are the worst kind." However, despite persistent questioning, Pena declined to specify who had "hired" the services of Guglielminetti and Gordon, merely said that "democracy has taken away their market. There is less interest in this kind of manpower now."

Regarding the bomb scares against former Italian President Sandro Pertini and former Argentine President Maria Martinez de Peron at Ezeiza International Airport, Pena pointed out that the investigations were carried out by the airport police. He said that "they were not overly enthusiastic about it, but they did it anyway." He concluded by saying that "according to them, they discovered nothing even though they interviewed 300 witnesses, the best way to find nothing at all."

LA PRENSA QUESTIONS INDIA'S NONALIGNED POSTURE

PY302229 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 27 Sep 85 p 6

[Editorial: "Great Britain, India, and Argentina]

[Rext] It has recently been reported from London that the British aircraft carrier Hermes, the flagship of the British fleet in the Malvinas war, would be donated to India as "lagniappe" on a purchase of armament worth several million pounds sterling.

The Indians had previously refused to purchase the Hermes because of its high maintenance costs.

Disregarding the fact that the United States is pressuring London not to dispose of the Hermes, even less to donate it, and to keep it in NATO's active service, the important fact to note is India's intention to set aside its commitment to "brotherhood" with Argentina in order to accept a favor from Great Britain. This occurs despite India's chairmanship of the Nonaligned Movement, in which Argentina has participated, by virtue of a decision of the Justicialist government, since 1974. This participation was later ratified by the military "process" and the UCR [Radical Civic Union] administration. This circumstance is especially noteworthy because our differences with London are still pending.

A few months ago, we commented on the Indian Government's decision to withdraw from the New Delhi Film Festival the Argentina movie, "The Boys of War," based on our young soldiers' participation in the South Atlantic war. In support of this whimsical decision, it was officially stated that "just showing the film would constitute an offense to Her Gracious Britannic Majesty." On that occasion, the Argentine Government kept absolute silence; that is, it did not file any protest with New Delhi. Instead, during a visit by President Alfonsin to India a few days after the showing of "The Boys of War" was banned, both the president and his Indian colleague made resounding speeches against the arms race. By contrast, the recent large purchase of war materiel from Great Britain, including missiles, helicopters, a modern antisubmarine defense system, and the Hermes gift, will only accelerate the arms race in which the former British colony is engaged, to the tune of $15 million by October 1984. It is said in New Delhi that these investments are necessary to maintain "parity" with Pakistan, India's eternal rival.

But what is interesting to note here is the frailty of Argentina's supposedly solid links with its "brothers" of the Nonaligned Movement. In Angola and Belgrade, Foreign Minister Dante Caputo has taken a stand intended to strengthen the "moderate" sector of the Nonaligned Movement, as opposed to the extremist sector led by Cuba. If the tendency we are discussing continues, considerable time will have to pass before a clear distinction between intent and decision, between promise and reality, can be established, a distinction to be ascertained by deeds, not words.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH GUYANA

FL032150 Bridgetown CANA in English 2010 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, Argentina, Oct 3, CANA -- An Argentine Government mission signed a science and technology agreement with Guyana during a regional tour aimed at developing cooperation, a statement from the Organisation of American States said today. It said the Foreign Ministry mission also succeeded in moving forward on the negotiation of several cooperation agreements with Caribbean countries. Details of the agreements were not given.

The OAS said the mission, led by Under-Secretary for International Cooperation Ambassador Oscar Yujnovsky, held talks with top officials of the Ministries of External Relations, bodies responsible for planning and technical cooperation, ministries and international organisations. It added that 20 participants from the Caribbean would be attending a seminar on agricultural development starting in Argentina in November.

Countries visited by the mission were Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago and Guyana, which have representatives to Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Antigua and Barbuda, and St Kitts-Nevis.

REPORT ON GOVERNMENT-COB DIALOGUE, AGREEMENT

PY032209 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] Interior Minister Fernando Barthelemy stated that the government guarantees the strict fulfillment of the agreements reached during the past few hours with leaders of the Bolivian Labor Federation [COB] and the Trade Union Federation of Bolivian Mineworkers [FSTMB]. The minister said that the government also expects the workers to adopt a similar attitude.

The agreements signed last night at Minister Barthelemy's office prompted the suspension of general and hunger strikes and the release of all workers and labor union leaders banished to eastern Bolivia. These agreements opened the paths for a patriotic, sincere, and permanent dialogue between the government and the national unions leadership within the framework of the Constitution and laws that rule Bolivia's institutional life.

The government has promised to start negotiations with the COB, through a joint commission, in order to exchange ideas regarding the new economic policy in aspects that will not affect the all-out struggle launched against hyperinflation and the main objective to recover the national productive enterprises.

Last night, after signing the agreements, Minister Barthelemy, addressing representatives of the media and labor union leaders in his office, asserted that within 48 hours all banished leaders would be released. However, he added:

[Begin recording] What we want to point out is that we believe that we are all acting in good faith. Therefore, we are going to fulfill those agreements we are now signing. The government for its part promises to fulfill these agreements. We believe that the union leaders will also fulfill their part of the agreement contained in the communique that has just been made public. [end recording]

Interior Minister Fernando Barthelemy, Defense Minister Fernando Valle, and COB and FSTMB leaders started harsh negotiations last Saturday, 28 September during which good faith and determination were revealed. Last night, as a result of these negotiations, in which according to Simon Reyes, the Catholic Church had a major role, two agreements were signed, thus overcoming the social conflict that lasted approximately 1 month.

Mine leader and Congressman Simon Reyes read the Bolivian labour organizations communique:

[Begin recording] The Bolivian Labor Federation [COB] hereby informs all its affiliated organizations and workers in general that in order to establish a continuous dialogue with the government within the framework of the current constitutional life prevailing in the country, the general national strike and the hunger strikes being carried out in some districts of the Republic have been suspended. The COB has thus promised on behalf of all confederations and union federations to respect all labor laws and regulations, and also to engage in negotiations to find solutions to current labor conflicts. [end recording]

Through the interior minister, the government has also reported the agreements reached with the union sector to overcome the conflict. In a press conference granted last night at 2130, Barthelemy read the official communique:

[Begin recording] The national government declaration reads as follows:

1. Taking into account the lifting of the national general strike and other measures of social pressure, and the COB's commitment, on behalf of the national, departmental, and local union members, to abide by the norms and procedures of the general labor law and related dispositions, seeking solutions to the labor conflicts, the national government acknowledges its obligation to maintain its relations with the union organizations within the framework of the state's political Constitution and the legal order prevailing in the country, as far as labor issues are concerned.

2. Moreover, and so that the dialogue between the executive branch and the workers not be held under pressure, the national government has ordered the return and release of all union leaders and other citizens who have been banished or detained, but without affecting the legal procedures in those cases where specific penal and civil laws have been violated. The labor and Labor Development Ministry is hereby entrusted with the task of studying the cases of dismissals and substitution of officials and workers resulting from the recent strike movement, within the framework of the procedures established by law.

3. The national government invites the COB to establish a joint commission to consider aspects of the new economic policy established by government Decree No 21070 which will not adversely affect the basic guidelines of this economic policy nor jeopardize the fundamental objective, which is to curb hyperinflation, to see that these measures will not adversely affect the workers' interests, and especially the need to reactivate the productive apparatus and normalize the country's economic life.

4. In view of the need to establish and strengthen the peaceful and democratic life for all Bolivians, in the midst of such a serious economic crisis, the government reasserts its desire to fulfill the Constitution and the laws of the Republic.

La Paz, 2 October 1985
[Signed] Fernando Barthelemy Martinez, Minister of Interior, Migration, and Justice

BRIEFS

SUPREME MILITARY TRIBUNAL PRESIDENT -- General Adalid Cuellar Pena was designated president of the Supreme Military Tribunal during a ceremony held at the Defense Ministry on 21 August. [Summary] [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 22 Aug 85 p 11 PY]

RELTIONS WITH ANTIGUA, BARBUDA -- Bolivia and Antigua and Barbuda on 26 August signed a joint declaration establishing bilateral diplomatic relations at the level of nonresident embassies. [Summary] [La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 27 Aug 85 p 3 PY]

AMBASSADORIAL DESIGNATIONS -- La Paz, 12 Sep (AFP) -- During a closed door session held on 11 September, the Senate approved the designation of Eduardo Tarigo and writer Augusto Cespedes as ambassadors to Argentina and to the UNESCO, respectively. [Summary] [Paris AFP in Spanish 1255 GMT 12 Sep 85 PY]

CBF GENERAL MANAGER -- Engineer Luis Deheza was installed as general manager of the Bolivian Development Corporation, CBF, on 23 August. [Summary] [La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 24 Aug 85 p 5 PY]

COFADENA MANAGER -- Brigadier General Carlos Morales Nunez del Prado has been installed as General Manager of Cofadena, the Armed Forces Corporation for National Development. Nunez del Prado replaces General Arsenio Gonzales. [Summary] [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 3 Sep 85 p 5 PY]

ITAMARATY CONDEMNS ISRAELI ATTACK ON PLO

PY031255 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 2 Oct 85 p 17

[Text] Brasilia -- The Brazilian Government yesterday condemned the Israeli attack on the PLO headquarters in Tunis. In a note published by Itamaraty, Foreign Minister Olavo Setubal stated that there is no justification for such an action against this organization, "which Brazil considers the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people."

Brazil feels that attacks of this nature only serve to increase tensions, to stir up passions, and "to put off even further the day when all Middle East nations will be able to coexist peacefully," the note states. The Brazilian Governme also states that attacks such as that carried out yesterday by Israel deeply hamper the efforts to the international community in the pursuit of a just and everlasting peace in the Middle East."

SNI CLAIMS SARNEY'S DAUGHTER LINKED TO PCB

PY030244 Sao Paulo VEJA in Portuguese 25 Sep 85 p 41

[From the "Radar" page]

[Text] A classified report issued by the National Service for Intelligence [SNI] has reported that the best communications channel between President Jose Sarney and representatives of the Brazilian Communist Parties has been identified. According to the SNI, she is "Mrs Roseana Murad" -- in fact, Roseana Sarney Murad, daughter of the president of the Republic. A copy of the report, which does not report the kinship existing between Roseana and the incumbent tenant of the Planalto Palace, recently reached President Sarney.

ARMY MINISTER VIEWS ARMED FORCES ROLE

PY011630 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 22 Sep 85 p 12

[Text] Army Minister General Leonidas Pires Goncalves, 64, in an exclusive interview to FOLHA DE SAO PAULO, defended the role the Armed Forces play in maintaining internal and external order. According to him, the discord between expectations and demands of all sorts and the ability to meet them can, in the present democratic framework, create difficulties that may affect social peace. "It is one of the Army's outstanding tasks to participate in the social balance and in the institutional stability by supporting law and order, in obedience of the legal texts and the decisions of the civil authorities, according to the requirements of a democratic state of law."

Several civilian sectors oppose the Armed Forces being in charge of maintaining internal order, contending that the Armed Forces' duties must be limited to the defense of the national territory against possible external aggression. "The maintenance of internal order and of the state of law in any democratic state is a function of the police, the attorney general, and the judicial branch," said jurist Fabio Konder Comparato, 48, a member of the Assembly for the Participation of the People in the Constituent Assembly.

As for the duties that the Armed Forces will have under the new constitution, Minister Pires said that in all countries of the world the Armed Forces are a permanent institution that must defend the fatherland and serve as guarantor of the legally established government and of law and order. He contended that all Brazilian constitutions, beginning with that of 1891, have established that such are the Armed Forces' duties. "The duties of our Armed Forces are a tradition that need not be changed," he stressed.

Admiral Maximiano da Fonseca, who was Navy minister during the Figueiredo administration, has agreed with the opinion of the Army minister, stressing that the single article that sets forth the Armed Forces duties in the 1891 Constitution is enough. Da Fonseca added: "This talk about changing their duties is a concealed attempt to cause disturbances." The former minister pointed out that he has already seen how U.S. Army troops occupied Washington to put an end to disorder. If "this is how the U.S. democracy works, I do not see why we should change things here in Brazil," he concluded.

As a matter of fact, the principle that the Armed Forces' duty is to defend the fatherland and preserve law and order has appeared in all the Brazilian constitutions since 1891. However, Article 91 of the 1969 Constitution added something new, in line with the old idea that the Armed Forces are also in charge of implementing the national security policy: "The Armed Forces, which are essential for the implementation of a national security policy, shall defend the fatherland and shall act as guarantors of the legally established government, and of law and order."

Based on all this, Jose Afonso da Silva, 60, a member of the Provisiional Commission for Constitutional Studies, has stated that "the important thing concerning the debt over the new constitution is the changing of the concept of national security, which has served to justify the military rule for the last 20 years." He believes the Armed Forces should act only in case of a foreign attack. "We will thus eliminate two points of confusion caused by the national security doctrine: on the one hand, the fact that whatever the opposition does has been regarded as a civil war action, and on the other the fact that civil war has been mistaken for foreign war, Professor Comparato [as published] concluded.

Jose Lôureiro, 58, president of the Sao Paulo branch of the Brazilian Bar Association (OAB-SP), has given his own interpretation of the inclusion of the national security doctrine in the article that sets forth the Armed Forces' duties. He stated that the doctrine cannot appear in the new constitution because it is part of a philosophy, "and a constitution cannot be based on doctrines. It must be free," he said.

While many people, such as the Army minister and jurist Fabio Comparato, have already made up their minds on the role of the Armed Forces, others, both from the left and right, are still undecided. Euclydes Figueiredo, war school commander, has refused to grant interviews, and his assistants have orders to deny any request in this regard. "This is not a matter to be discussed superficially. I am very busy and I would need time to analyze the issue." said lawyer Sobral Pinto. Nelson Werneck Sodre, a political science expert, also refused to address the issue. He said: "I do not want to sell my ideas to people who are far from my own line of thinking."

This cautiousness or refusal to make public statements may have been caused by the government's position. While having lunch with journalists at the Alvorada Palace on 26 July, President Jose Sarney spelled out the government's position on the duties that the new constitution should assign to the Armed Forces. He said that in addition to preserving the national territory against foreign aggression, the Armed Forces are also the guardians of internal order, because this is what all the Brazilian constitutions have stated. Sarney also reportedly said that if it were up to him, this constitutional principle would be maintained.

A great majority of Armed Forces officers, in their unofficial statements, have supported the professionalization of the Armed Forces, keeping them, as an institution, outside political or party issues. Former Minister Da Fonseca, who agrees with this position, has rejected as "absurd" the participation of the military in the elections for national constituent assembly delegates. "The constituent assembly is a political affair. The military, like all other citizens, will be represented at the constituent assembly by the politicians. The military are not a caste. They will make political decisions like all other citizens," Da Fonseca said.

Even though the OAB national president's proposal to grant corporals, sailors, and soldiers the right to vote is in line with the idea that the military are also ordinary citizens, the war minister has not welcomed it. "The current concern centers around an unacceptable practice of partisan politics inside the barracks. This is unacceptable because of its negative effects on the Armed Forces' unity," said the minister.

Jose Afonso da Silva, who favors the project to grant corporals, sailors, and soldiers the right to vote, maintains that a corporal has as much right to vote as an officer does. He believes that granting them the right to vote will not cause problems within the Armed Forces. "If the electoral tribunal needs a soldier to maintain order during the elections, the soldier will be aware that he is under the jurisdiction of the electoral court and not of political parties," Da Silva remarked.

According to some points of view, the aim of the Armed Forces will be to concentrate on their professionalism to the point that the possibility of having a civilian as military minister will have to be considered. Brazil already had a similar experience during Epitacio Pessoa's government (1919-1922), when the position of war minister was held by Joao Calogeras. Jose Afonso da Silva believes that "the position of defense minister would be ideal, so that the three branches remain subordinated as secretariats." In his opinion this would be a way to prevent the Armed Forces from interfering in politics. Loureira believes that, in theory, nothing would prevent that, but that it should also be assumed that the military could hold positions in a civilian ministry.

COAL MINERS STAGE FIRST STRIKE UNDER PINOCHET

PY031818 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1424 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 3 Oct (EFE) -- The first strike to be staged by the coal miners since General Augusto Pinochet came to power started today in Chile.

During a meeting more than 4,000 coal miners decided not to accept a pre-agreement reached by their leaders with the enterprise, and they also decided not to report for work. The miners thus began a legal strike demanding better wages.

This incident has added more tension to the country's current situation, which is very agitated because of the strike being carried out at most universities and because labor leaders are preparing support actions in solidarity with the jailed leaders who have been charged by the government.

Only 300 miners of the 2,000 who make up the first shift of the Lota mine reported for work. The enterprise had to suspend the work day, and thus the first coal miners strike in 12 years started. The information that has been received from the southern region where the main coal mines are located, 500 km from Santiago, indicates that the enterprise has decided to close the mines because scarcely any workers reported for work.

ARMED FORCES INCREASES EQUIPMENT, PERSONNEL

PY030359 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0859 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] Santiago, 2 Oct (EFE) -- Chilean Armed Forces personnel and equipment have been increased since 1973 when the military regime headed by General Augusto Pinochet came to power. However, the seemingly spectacular arms increase is really not all that great because most of the items purchased or locally manufactured are obsolete.

This can be seen in a report on the Chilean Armed Forces published today in the first issue of Defense and Disarmament in Latin America and the Caribbean, a publication that came into being under an agreement between the Chilean Association for Peace Investigations (ACHIP) and the Latin American Social Science School (Flacso). The report notes that 12 years ago, when the government of Salvador Allende was deposed by a coup, the Chilean Armed Forces had a large number of personnel but was weak in arms and equipment compared with the Latin American average. In 1973, the three traditional branches -- Army, Navy, and Air Force -- had manpower numbering near 60,000 men in addition to the 30,000 men of the Carabineros Corps which was then a police institution under the Interior Ministry.

According to the latest available information, the Armed Forces personnel increased to 122,000 men in 1982, including personnel in the Carabineros Corps which, under the current military regime, has become the fourth service of the Armed Forces.

The report notes that military expenditures have simultaneously increased from $802 million in 1973 to $2,294,000,000 in 1984. Defense Minister Admiral Patricio Carvajal, in a press conference held in his office last Monday, denied this and affirmed that Chile had apportioned $728 million for defense expenditures in 1984, a figure that was reduced in the 1985 budget.

At any rate, the report says that most of the arms purchased or locally manufactured since 1973 are outdated, including the Mirage 50's.

In other instances, the reports notes, the purchased arms are outmoded and it cannot be understood, at least for strictly military reasons, why they were acquired. This is the case with the MBT M-4 tanks purchased from Israel, which have been in use for 40 years and can be no match for such opponents as the Argentine TAM. According to the report, there are very few cases of weapons or weapons systems acquired by Chile during the past few years that are technologically up to date. Perhaps we could mention among them some missiles, such as the Milan, the submarines of the 209 type, or the F-5 supersonic fighter planes. The excuse the purchasers use is the embargo which for human rights and other similar reasons has been imposed on Chile during the past few years and that several times has compelled us to purchase outdated materiel.

In conclusion, the author of the report asks whether Chile has been protected with these weapons against a possible foreign attack, and provides a theoretical answer: Perhaps we could say that against its main neighbors, Chile has not been in a position of winning a war, but has been in a position of causing serious losses in materiel and personnel to a potential enemy, and perhaps of halting a major attack.

PRESIDENT DENIES REMARKS ON NATIONAL ACCORD

PY032251 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 1700 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Report from La Moneda Palace by Persio Barberi]

[Text] President Pinochet this morning denied having said that the National Accord for the Full Transition to Democracy is acceptable and very interesting. He made it clear that his words were misinterpreted and that in uttering these words, he was just referring to General Matthei's remarks.

In an impromptu press conference held this morning in his office, President Pinochet also reiterated that the government will not change its position on the institutionalization program announced on 11 September.

Pinochet, who was accompanied by Interior Minister Ricardo Garcia, said that he has been studying a request submitted to him yesterday to drop the charges filed against some leaders for violating the internal state security law during the 4-5 September incidents.

Regarding reconciliation, Pinochet said he has been talking about it for the past 4 years. Thus, he said, no one should take credit for someone else's ideas. [recorded passage indistinct]

Cuadra Comments

PY031752 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 3 Oct 85

[By Rosa Sanchez]

[Excerpts] President Pinochet today will resume his normal activities at the La Moneda presidential palace after an exhausting 24-hour visit to the 6th region. As for his visit to Rancagua, we can note that during his short stay Pinochet discussed important national and regional issues. Pinochet said that an accord between the different trends of opinion would be acceptable and interesting. [Pinochet recording indistinct]

As the presidential entourage was leaving a ceremony in Rancagua, the press talked with Government Secretary General Francisco Javier Cuadra. Asked about General Matthei's statement regarding the so-called National Accord, Cuadra said:

[Begin recording] He noted that there are still some basic points that must be further explained and that there are still some very important observations to be made regarding the text of the agreement. In its declaration, the government noted that there are basic points such as views on democracy; the association of Marxists, particularly that of the Communist Party; issues pertaining to the right to property, which is not sufficiently safeguarded in this political [word indistinct] agreement; and state subsidies that have to be further discussed by the members of the accord. This is what General Matthei was referring to. [end recording]

Asked about Pinochet's statement regarding the National Accord, the government official noted that its text and tone is similar to the pact that was signed in 1970 through which the Christian Democracy voted in favor of the Popular Unity candidate, Salvador Allende. The majority of Chileans are apprehensive about the accord in this regard.

Asked about recent student incidents and whether the government will adopt measures in view of the attitude that certain university sectors have adopted, Cuadra clearly identified the sectors that are causing disorder and added that the government has not adopted all the measures it can resort to.

[Begin recording] It is a minority sector that is promoting disorder in the universities. The majority of students are involved in academic activities. The government must adopt measures that are commensurate with the damage. The government has not resorted to all the measures it can enforce. It is closely following the development of events and hopes, like all citizens, that those sectors that are promoting this disorder will resume their university activities. [end recording]

GENERAL LEIGH INTERVIEWED BY COSAS

PY010100 Santiago COSAS in Spanish 16 Sep 85 pp 55, 56, 57

[Interview with General Gustavo Leigh, former Air Force commander and junta member, with COSAS magazine reporter Raquel Correa -- place and date not given]

[Excerpts] [Correa] How closely are you in contact with national activities?

[Leigh] As closely as any Chilean citizen who works.

[Correa] And how about with the institutions?

[Leigh] I maintain no contact at all.

[Correa] Do you only keep in contact with retired members of the Armed Forces?

[Leigh] Yes, but not much.

[Correa] How many Air Force generals left when you did?

[Leigh] On the whole, 19 of us left.

[Correa] Do you think you have any influence on the active Air Force members?

[Leigh] I would rather not answer that question.

[Correa] If by some miracle you were to become commander in chief at this moment, what is the first think you would do?

[Leigh] I would resign.

[Correa] Why now and not in 1976 for example?

[Leigh] Because at that time I still had hopes. The deterioration during the first phase was gradual, slow. I always believed that General Pinochet would react, would analyze and discuss the problems. But as time went by I began to get tired and to realize that he was inflexible, that he had very little political vision.

[Correa] Isn't inflexibility a typical military characteristic?

[Leigh] Any human being can be inflexible, he does not necessarily have to be in the military for that.

[Correa] You signed the National Accord for a Transition to Full Democracy. Could you tell us why?

[Leigh] As I stated in a brief public declaration that I read that day, I signed the National Accord because I believe that, in view of the serious political, economic, moral, and social situation that Chile is experiencing and the Pinochet government's systematic indifference to the people's demand for an urgent reestablishment of democratic norms of coexistence, the National Accord is the only means to an agreement with the government that will allow us to establish a formula to restore normalcy in the country. This document is a preliminary accord, a preliminary agreement of democracy. The National Accord must be reached with the government. However, if the government continues to reject the negotiation proposals aimed at taking the path to a real and effective transition, social pressure will continue to mount, leading to a tragic outcome. This is what I fear most: that the path we have taken may lead to a great social explosion....We are asked not to advocate violence but the problem is that violence does not just spring up from one place. And they had better not tell me the government has nothing to do with violence. We must do away with violence, but in order to do so we must reach agreements, accords. I fear we may return to a situation very similar to that of the 1981 revolution because of the use of force, the delay and lack of interest in publishing the constitutional laws, the plans to hand over the basic public organizations to the private sector, the lack of interest in the problems affecting the workers, the rigidity and injustice of labor laws, the lack of government austerity and citizens' participation in the legislative process.

[Correa] Did you voice your concern over these issues when you were a member of the junta?

[Leigh] I talked to General Pinochet about the need to draw up a political itinerary on several occasions. Since he did not listen to me, I publicly voiced my concerns on 21 March 1978, at El Bosque Air Force Base.

[Correa] You maintain that the "great accord" must be reached with the government. What real possibilities of this exist?

[Leigh] According to what we have seen during the past 12 years, I think it will be very difficult for the government to accept any type of transaction that might mean changing the itnerary it established in the 1980 Constitution. For this same reason I give this "accord" of the democrats more importance. It will represent a moral burden for the government if thousands of signatures, from throughout the country, support the National Accord.

[Correa] The government response is that there is a Constitution with an objective the Armed Forces have pledged to fulfill.

[Leigh] Of course. One keeps the pledge to defend a Constitution through a national consensus. I am convinced that the 1980 Constitution will last only until the day the government ends.

[Correa] How do you think an understanding could be achieved?

[Leigh] An understanding must be achieved through talks. Let us suppose that there are unchangeable views, that the opposition will allow the government to remain until 1989, but that elections for deputies, senators, mayors, and president of the Republic be held in 1989. The electoral registrations must be prepared right now so that a real transition, which is to begin in 1989, and no earlier, can be prepared. Perhaps that government will not last a full presidential term, but it will certainly have a gigantic task: It must begin by progressively restoring all freedoms, and conclude by issuing and submitting to a plebiscite a specific Constitution. But that government must be headed by someone who may awaken a national consensus, someone who will have the support of the people and the Armed Forces.

[Correa] What do you consider the Armed Forces?

[Leigh] Their commanders in chief. When we speak of the Armed Forces, we are referring to the commanders in chief. They are the only possible interlocutors who speak on behalf of the Armed Forces. A government of vertical obedience does not allow any other procedure. There should be no attempt to speak with the chiefs of staff. . . .

[Correa] Would it mean trying to divide them?

[Leigh] No. That would be sedition.

[Correa] How do you interpret the fact that the commanders in chief threw into the wastebasket the letter which the Democratic Alliance sent to them last year?

[Leigh] In my opinion, the thinking or the opinion of a citizens' sector, whether large, medium, or small, cannot be just thrown into the wastebasket, not even speaking in figurative language....In my judgment, we must seek all possible means to negotiate, and not close doors. And the government must negotiate with the best of conditions, with time, and with freedom of action.

[Correa] Why will the government have to change its flight course?

[Leigh] A pilot must be fully aware of his situation. And Chile is a plane that is heading for a collision. If the pilot does not change course he is going to crash into a mountain.

To avoid it the pilot must gain altitude.... From the ground they are telling the pilot the radar has detected him at a dangerous altitude and if he does not change course, the plane will crash with all its cargo. A good pilot should never disregard the instruments.... When one goes inside a cloud, on an instrument flight, he must look at the artificial horizon: the little plane that shows that aircraft's position...

[Correa] And is a copilot necessary...?

[Leigh] Not only a copilot, but a full crew in reserve. It is also necessary to believe in the instruments, which are objective and never-failing...

[Correa] In the case of the country, what would be the most appropriate instrument?

[Leigh] A mask.

[Correa] A mask?

[Leigh] Yes. The pilot must mask himself and go to the heavily populated areas [Vega Central], and listen to the vendors and purchasers. He must listen to the people's authentic voice.

DETAINED OPPOSITION LEADERS ISSUE PRISON DOCUMENT

PY022217 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0334 GMT 2 Oct 85

[By Senen Conejeros]

[Text] Santiago, 2 Oct (EFE) -- The document entitled "Our Hands are Clean" [Nuestras Manos estan Limpias], released by Santiago jail prisoners, asserts that the unity between students and workers organizations is very much a consequence of the latest measures taken by the Chilean military government. Taking into consideration that the politicians are still working out alliances and strategies, the students and workers are two of the most important social groups in Chile, although until recently unable to tread a common path.

The association between workers and students appears today not only as a result of a common struggle against the Chilean military regime, but also as a result of the experiences shared by the principal union and university leaders, who were thrown in jail together by recent orders of the Interior Ministry. More than 20 labor union and students leaders remain under arrest, and are accused of being responsible for the acts of violence during the national protest on 4 September.

Several detainees today sent EFE a handwritten note, a declaration of principles regarding their actions as opposition members. Several university, professional schools, and church authorities have expressed their solidarity with the detainees.

In their document, the labor and students leaders state: Our hands are not stained by the blood of General Schneider (killed by a rightist command), nor by that of General Prats (Allende's former minister and Army commander, killed in Argentina after the military coup), nor by that of Orlando Letelier (murdered in Washington by alleged agents of the Chilean Government).

Our hands, they added, did not grip the knife that took the lives of Parada, Guerrero, and Nattino (communists murdered in March 1985), nor have our hands fired against townspeople, or against women and children, nor have they silenced with bullets the peaceful and legitimate protest.

Our hands did not fire against father Andre Jarlan (a French priest killed by a shot fired by a Carabinero during a protest a year ago), nor did they sign orders to arbitrarily detain, torture, murder, banish, or exile for the sole reason of having different ideas. The document adds that the detained leaders are not responsible for the unemployment of hundreds of thousands of Chileans, condemning their families to the humiliation of hunger, prostitution, drug addiction, and alcoholism. According to the leaders, our hands defend the rights of workers and students to build a free, autonomous, and participatory university. According to the signatories of the document, our hands are ready for the real reconciliation which stems from repentance and the will to transform the current justice into a coexistence based on truth, peace, and justice, elements which are essential for building liberty and democracy. The leaders conclude by saying that our hands, still chained and behind prison bars, are clean.

Among others, the document is signed by Rodolfo Seguel, chairman of the National Workers Command; Manuel Bustos, chairman of the National Coordinating Board of Trade Unions; and Jose Ruiz di Giorgio, chairman of the petroleum workers federation. On behalf of the students, the document is signed by Tomas Joselyn-Holt, president of the student federation of the Catholic University of Chile, and Ricardo Brodsky, secretary general of the Federation of Students of the University of Chile.

LATE REPORT: CHARGES DROPPED AGAINST SEGUEL, OTHERS

PY040300 Paris AFP in Spanish 0236 GMT 4 Oct 85

[Text] Santiago, 3 Oct (AFP) -- The Chilean military government today withdrew the charges that had prompted the detention of top union and student leaders of the opposition, who will thus be released within the next few hours, it was reported today by official sources. The announcement was made tonight during a press conference held by Interior Minister Ricardo Garcia.

Among the detainees are Rodolfo Seguel, president of the National Workers Command (CNT), and leaders of university student federations, who were charged with promoting subversion.

Yielding to numerous petitions, including that of Cardinal Juan Francisco Fresno, President Augusto Pinochet agreed to withdraw the charges and to have the court proceedings dismissed, the interior minister said.

32 SOLDIERS, 24 GUERRILLAS KILLED IN LAST 24 HOURS

PA031915 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1751 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] Bogota, 3 Oct (EFE) -- Official spokesmen reported today that the number of persons killed during clashes between the army and the 19 April Movement (M-19) in the last 24 hours has risen to 56, including soldiers and guerrillas.

The official sources cited by Radio Cadena Nacional Network said that 28 soldiers and 9 guerrillas were killed yesterday in clashes in Tolima Department. Another 4 soldiers and 15 guerrillas were killed today in new clashes in a nearby area of Valle del Cauca Department, bordering Tolima.

Details of the clashes and casualties are still imprecise because the military continues to pursue the guerrillas, and new clashes are taking place.

Troops from the 3d and 6th Army Brigades, supported by helicopter gunships, are operating in the mountain area between Tolima and Valle del Cauca, where the clashes are occurring.

The clashes in the last 24 hours are the most serious in Colombia since late June, when the M-19 broke the truce signed 1 year ago with the government and launched an offensive in which approximately 50 policemen, soldiers, and guerrillas were killed.

ECOPETROL TANKS BURN; 470-MILLION PESO LOSS

PA030350 Bogota Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] The fire that broke out at Ecopetrol [Colombian Petroleum Enterprise] deposits in southern Bolivar was finally put out today. The tanks in (Yaquiri) had burned for 24 hours.

[Begin unidentified reporter recording] Twenty-four hours after these 40,000 barrels of crude oil started burning in the zone of Cantagallo, 6 km north of Puerto Wilches, Ecopetrol technicians were finally able to extinguish the fire. This conflagration, which started yesterday morning on Island 6 of the Cantagallo Camp, destroyed 6 tanks containing 40,000 barrels of oil, a loss estimated at 170 million pesos in fuel and 300 million pesos in installations. In addition, Engineer Julio Chapeton and operators Angel Moreno and Arcadio Montero sustained second-degree burns. They are recovering in a hospital near the community of El Centro. The 470-million peso loss will not be assumed wholly by Ecopetrol but by an insurance company. Almost all the fuel in the tanks had burned out by this afternoon; the technicians are already repairing all the damaged oil installation's structures. [end recording]

BRIEFS

1986 BUDGET APPROVED -- On 25 September the Colombian Congress approved the 1986 national budget of 648 billion pesos. Some of the allocations include 230 billion for operational expenses, 170 billion for debt payment, and 137 billion for investments. [Summary] [Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 26 Sep 85 p 1 PA]

JAPAN'S ABE REITERATES AID OFFER DURING VISIT

FL032334 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2300 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] Mexico City, 3 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs Shintaro Abe, who arrived in Mexico today, has reiterated his government's support in contributing to the repair of damages to the capital caused by the 19 September earthquake. In a press conference, Abe expressed his condolences for the tradegy in which thousands of Mexicans died, and expressed his hope that the national economy will recover soon.

At 2330 GMT, the Japanese foreign minister will meet with Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid, to whom we will express his condolences, and the two will discuss Japanese aid to Mexico.

Foreign Minister Abe said that when his country learned of the magnitude of the earthquakes, it granted $1.25 million to begin the work of rebuilding hospitals and schools and to provide technical assistance in demolition and aid in building earthquake-proof structures.

Referring to the visit President De la Madrid was to have made to Tokyo this month, he said that unfortunately it has been postponed until the situation in the capital returns to normal.

DEATH TOLL FROM EARTHQUAKE RISES TO 5,526

FL021600 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0210 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 1 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- A total of 19 bodies were rescued today from the ruins of buildings that collapsed during the earthquakes of 19 and 20 September. The total number of deaths has risen to 5,526 and injured to 4,000. There are more than 20,000 earthquake victims and 6,500 disappearances.

Rescue teams continue their tasks in the collapsed buildings, principally in the central zone of the capital which was the most affected by the earthquakes.

For his part, Jose de la Cruz Palacios, leader of the Terrazzo Floor Workers Union, said the demolition and removal of rubble from the collapsed buildings should be completed within 3 months since the task is done more quickly at night because there is less traffic.

Jose Paoli Bolio, rector of the Xochimilco unit of the Metropolitan Autonomous University, said the reconstruction of the Mexican capital will have to be held together by justice and democracy, characteristics which cannot be seen in the immediate future.

He added that it is not advisable to establish centers in the capitals of the states since those locations possess the same characteristics that could cause new problems and it is necessary to coordinate the rural zones so that new cities can be linked to them.

NEW CABINET MEMBERS, OTHERS APPOINTED

PA040356 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 0310 GMT 4 Oct 85

[Text] The following is the official listing of President Eric del Valle's cabinet:

Rodolfo Chiari	Government and Justice Minister
Jorge Abadia Arias	Foreign Minister
Hector Alexander	Finance Minister
Manuel Solis Palma	Education Minister
Efrain Zanetti	Public Works Minister
Bruno Garisto	Agricultural Development Minister
Jose Bernardo Cardenas	Commerce and Industry Minister
Jorge Federico Lee	Labor Minister
Carlos de Sedas	Health Minister
Roberto Velasquez	Housing Minister
Ricaurte Vasquez	Planning Minister
Nander Pitty	Presidency Minister

Official listing of the deputy ministers named by the president:

Alicio Rivera	Deputy Justice Minister
Jose Maria Cabrera	Deputy Foreign Minister
Julio Shaik	Deputy Finance Minister
Jorge Arosemena	Deputy Education Minister
Rogelio Durmois	Deputy Public Works Minister
Luis Olmedo Castillo	Deputy Agricultural Development Minister
Dorothy Chong de Sing	Deputy Commerce and Industry Minister
Agustin Sellhorn	Deputy Labor Minister
Eduardo Reyes	Deputy Health Minister
Pedro Pereira	Deputy Housing Minister
Leovigildo Herrera	Deputy Planning Minister
Ramon D. Segistan	Deputy Presidency Minister

His excellency the president has also designated Carlos Alberto Garcia Molino as press secretary, and Ramon Arosemena as his private secretary.

We now read the list of citizens named to the different government decentralized institutions.

Ricardo Franco Aguilar	General Director of the La Victoria Sugar Corporation
Miguel Velasquez	Assistant Director of the La Victoria Sugar Corporation
Aurelio Chu Yi	General Director of the Cemento Bayano State Company
Nedelka de Castillo	Assistant Director of the Cemento Bayano State Company
Alberto Garcia de Paredes	General Manager of the Panamanian Tourism Institute
Ernesto Riera	Director of the Price Control Office
Rodrigo Jaen	Assistant Director of the Price Control Office
David Delgado	General Manager of the Colon Free Zone
Pedro Alexis	Assistant Manager of the Colon Free Zone
Luis Alberto Arias	General Manager of the National Bank of Panama
Ramon Gilberto Perez	Assistant Manager of the National Bank of Panama
Mario Typaldos	General Manager of Savings Bank
Alberto Barrios	Assistant Manager of Savings Bank
Jack Cardoze	General Manager of National Casinos

Luis Adames	Assistant Manager of National Casinos
Antonio Alessandria	Manager of President Remon Racetrack
Maximo Luque	Assistant Administrative Manager of President Remon Racetrack
Jorge Paez Rodriguez	Assistant Manager of President Remon Racetrack
Ana Villa Flores	Director of the National Lottery Office
Ramon Garcia Aguilera	Assistant Director of the National Lottery Office
Darisnel Espino	General Manager of the Agricultural Development Bank
Rafael Castrellon	Assistant Manager of the Agricultural Development Bank
Alvaro Miranda	Chiriqui Citrus Fruit Company
Major Pascual Gonzalez de Leon	Director of Civil Aeronautics
Germinal Sarasqueta	Assistant Director of Civil Aeronautics
Luis Blanco	General Manager of the National Telecommunications Institute
Juan Vaprio	Assistant Manager of the National Telecommunications Institute
Jose I. Blandon	General Director of the Institute Hydraulic Resources and Electrification (IRHE)
Juan Barnett Garay	Assistant Director of IRHE
Raul Brostella	Director of the National Port Authority
Diomedes Concepcion	Technical Director of the National Port Authority
Hector Zavala	Assistant Administrative Director National Port Authority
Maritza Noris Herrera	General Director of the Panamanian Special Rehabilitation Institute (IPHE)
Josefina Diaz	Assistant Director of IPHE
Carlos Ernesto Fabrega	General Director of the National Culture Institute
Miguel Montiel	Assistant Director of the National Culture Institute
Jorge Estenoz	General Director of the National Sports Institute
Ventura Vega	Assistant Director of the National Sports Institute
Humberto Lopez Tirone	General Director of the Human Resources Education and Training Institute (IFARHU)
Rosa Saona	Assistant Director of IFARHU
Dominador Kaiser Bazan	General Director of Social Security Fund
Rolando Fung	Assistant Director of Social Security Fund
Pedro Rueda	Executive Director of the National Water and Sanitation Institute (IDAAN)
Jorge Cedeno	Assistant Director of IDAAN
Ricardo Vasquez	Director of Metropolitan Sanitation
Ricardo Isos	Assistant Director of Metropolitan Sanitation
Jaime Simmons	General Manager of the National Mortgage Bank
Alberto Luis Tunon	Assistant Manager of the National Mortgage Bank
Enrique Reilly Puga	Director of the National Professional Formation Institute
Luis Carlos Julio Quijano	General Manager of Air Panama International, S.A.
Azael Purcait	Assistant Manager of Air Panama
Teodoro Navas	Director of Panama Railroad
Paul Leignadier	General Director of Panamanian Institute of Foreign Trade

COCINA CALLS FOR 3 OCT NATIONAL CIVIC STRIKE

PA031330 Panama City Cadena Exitosa in Spanish 1248 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Communique issued by the Coordinating Board for National Civilianization -- date not given]

[Text] The Coordinating Board for National Civilianization, Cocina, faithful to its commitment to struggle for the moralization of the country, the permanent respect for human rights, the country's demilitarization, the recovery of moral values, and

essentially, to satisfy our people's thirst for justice, announces to the public that the national civic strike begins at 0700 today 3 October to reiterate to the national government the demand for the creation of the investigative commission requested by the Spadafora family so that the horrible crime committed against Dr Hugo Spadafora will be objectively solved. We urge the citizens to remain in their homes today, Thursday, 3 October; not to carry out any business; not to make any purchases; and not to make any payments as a demonstration of peaceful resistance to achieve justice and peace in our country.

[Signed] For Cocina, Dr Mauro Zuniga

Citizens are invited to go to the Art and Science Athenaeum, headquarters of the movement, during the strike.

Student Group Supports Strike

PA010139 Panama City EXTRA in Spanish 30 Sep 85 p 2

[Text] The Revolutionary Students Front, FER-29, yesterday called for a general strike to defend public freedoms and to call for appointment of an impartial investigating commission.

FER-29 issued a communique asking the Coordinating Board for National Civilianization, Cogina, and the National Council of Organized Workers, Conato, "to call as soon as possible a general strike to defend public freedoms and human rights, and to call for the appointment of an impartial investigating commission to meet the people's demands." The communique, in which the FER-29 comments on the political situation, also states that "the shameful coupist maneuver has unmasked the democratic farce with which the authorities have tried to deceive the people, confirming once more the intention of the military to control by all means the power in the country." "Eric Arturo del Valle, the new tenant of the Herons Palace, an indisputable puppet of the military, is well known for being a prominent member of the exploiting circles."

The FER-29 communique also says that "Ardito Barletta was forced to resign in the midst of the country's convulsive and dramatic situation. The military chiefs are using this situation as an excuse to stave off the Panamanian people's accusations against the military as the main institution responsible for the state terrorist policy unleashed in the past few months against sectors that, although maintaining different political and ideological concepts, have made serious public accusations on the ill-fated role played by the military in the country's political development.

Spadafora Probe Demand

PA021732 Panama City EXTRA in Spanish 2 Oct 85 p 1

[Excerpt] Beginning at 0800 tomorrow, Thursday, the country will be paralyzed if a special investigation commission is not appointed to investigate the assassination of guerrilla Dr Hogo Spadafora. This protest action was agreed upon Monday night at a meeting of civic, business, medical, professional, student, teacher, and political party groups who met at the Science and Arts Auditorium. This meeting was convoked by the Spadafora family and the Coordinating Board for National Civilianization (Cocina).

During Monday night's meeting, Winston Spadafora, brother of the slain doctor who has been on a 9-day hunger strike, indicated that they do not want to topple any government. Representatives of almost all the organizations present at the meeting publicly expressed their repudiation of the horrid crime against Dr Spadafora and committed themselves to supporting the strike beginning tomorrow, Thursday.

Various Groups Refuse to Strike

PA031443 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 3 Oct 85 p 1

[Text] The Panamanian Central Organization of Transportation Workers, CPTT, which includes taxi, truck, and bus drivers, will not participate in the 48-hour strike called by Cocina [Coordinating Board for National Civilianization].

The drivers will not support the strike organized by the opposition political group because they are aware of the responsibility they have to the Panamanian people to provide transportation services.

The services provided by the Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification, IRHE, and the National Institute of Telecommunications, INTEL, and the ports will continue normally.

The strike is also rejected and condemned by the unions of workers of industry, commerce, and agriculture [sindicatos de trabajadores de la industria, el commercio, y el agro] and by such organizations as the National Confederation of Peasant Settlements, CONAC, and the Panama Railroad Workers, who have said that the strike does not include aspirations that satisfy the real needs of the Panamanian people.

LIBERAL VANGUARD DEMANDS NORIEGA'S REMOVAL

PA031640 Panama City EXTRA in Spanish 3 Oct 85 p 2

["Manifiesto to the Nation" issued by the Liberal Vanguard -- date and place not given]

[Text] The Liberal Vanguard, a group affiliated with the authentic liberal party (being formed), hereby voices its total rejection of Dr Hugo Spadafora's murder that took place in circumstances that seriously implicate the leadership of the ill-named Defense Forces of Panama and that call for a thorough investigation that will gather the evidence in order to bring before trial and condemn the depraved persons who committed this hateful crime against the social peace and tranquillity of the entire nation.

The country is fed up with living under the tensions and outrages committed by the haughty rulers who not only consider themselves omnipotent and carry out all sorts of outrages against the morale and physical well-being of the Panamanian citizens, but who also manipulate -- in a very clear and definite manner -- the civilian and judiciary authorities, who should be entrusted with upholding the law in a clear, upright manner. Therefore, and in soliarity with the Spadafora family's formal petition, we feel it is urgently needed to approve a law creating an investigation commission that will carry out an impartial and thorough investigation to determine the responsibilities in this hateful murder that has shocked all Panamanians. The Constitution provides for this and the entire nation is requesting this because we cannot believe in an Attorney General's Office [poder publico] that is distorted and corrupt and only serves to mock the constant demand for justice of the Panamanian people in the face of so many crimes and outrages committed by the unpopular ruling group, corrupted militarymen, and the servile and accomplice civilians during the last 17 years. The Attorney General's Office has been vulgarly manipulated to the extent that it does not administer justice in the many crimes, violations of human rights, and theft of public funds -- cases over which preside mock judges who obey the evil orders of their masters in uniform who appointed them accomplices in their crimes. It is about time that justice is done and the paths of the fatherland be reorganized to encompass the deep changes that will allow us to live in a true climate of peace and tranquillity. There will be no justice and therefore no peace as long as the criminals who exercise the real power are the same ones who commit the crimes, and, at the same time, who administer "justice."

The Liberal Vanguard therefore demands the immediate separation from their posts of General Manuel Antonio Noriega Moreno, Colonel Roberto M. Diaz, and Lieutenant Colonel Julio Young (G-2), as they are the main suspects in the horrible crime. There is sufficient circumstantial evidence and implications to justify a thorough investigation of these men -- who currently represent the manipulating force of power, fraud, crime, drugs, and corruption in general. It is necessary to eliminate, once and for all, this malignant tumor that has already done so much harm to our nation.

The change is necessary in order to have truly democratic institutions and honest officials that will be the basis for true democracy and real justice. There is only one path, the decent people demand it, otherwise... there will be no peace.

1 October 1985, Liberal Vanguard -- Augusto C. Arosemena, secretary general; Julio Perez, secretary of public relations; Maria Olimpia de Obaldia, secretary of organization; Ezequiel Rodriguez C., secretary of finance; Marco A. Ameglio, Political Committee; Julio Ramirez, Political Committee.

PALA URGES 'HARMONIOUS, COORDINATED' EFFORTS

PA300429 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 0206 GMT 30 Sep 85

[Communique issued by the Labor Party, PALA, to the nation -- date and place not given]

[Text] The Labor Party, PALA, aware of its responsibility toward all citizens in view of the recent events that led to the resignation of Dr Nicolas Ardito Barletta, believes that it must report its position in this regard.

Despite his efforts and dedication Dr Nicolas Ardito Barletta's presidential tenure could not achieve the consensus of the various political forces regarding government actions that must be adopted to tackle the serious problems afflicting our people.

This situation led to a political crisis that, in keeping with the mechanism for presidential succession specified by the national constitution, culminated with the swearing in of Mr Eric Arturo del Valle as president of the republic.

The PALA, which during the 1984 elections supported Mr Eric Arturo del Valle for the first vice presidency, now reiterated to him under this circumstance the party's patriotic responsible, and determined support. The party is fully convinced that the situation now being experienced by the country requires harmonious and coordinated action by all forces responsible for carrying out government efforts within a legal framework guaranteeing respect for democratic institutions, citizens' right, and human rights, and promoting a climate leading to the achievement of the most cherished objectives of development, peace, and welfare of the Panamanian people.

Panama urgently needs a solution to serious social and economic problems such as the worsening unemployment problem, a lack of confidence in investments, and the alarming fiscal imbalance, which are hindering the country's development.

This is why the PALA recognizes that the participation in this task of all social and productive forces is important. Therefore, it considers that any measure affecting them must be the result of permanent consultations and dialogue to ensure that any development project will respect the gains of our workers as well as growth of the agrarian sector to guarantee the defense of our national sovereignty, which is achieved through genuine economic independence.

The PALA insists on the need to preserve at all costs the social peace enjoyed by the Panamanian people. To achieve that, all political, labor, civic, guild and popular organizations must responsibly practice the rights specified in our constitution and help to maintain public order. We firmly reject destabilization attempts and unfounded attacks on government institutions, such as the Panamanian Defense Forces, which have the constitutional duty to safeguard our sovereignty, national security, and public order. In this task, the media also has a special role as orientators of public opinion. We wish to make an ardent and respectful call on them to play their role in ensuring the adequate exercise of the freedom of expression and to maintain social peace.

We PALA members make a patriotic call to all Panamanians, regardless of their political positions, to work together in the great task of solving the problems afflicting us and preserving the great and progressive country that we received from our fathers and which we are obliged to bequeath to our sons in peace.

LIBERAL PARTY COMMUNIQUE SUPPORTS DEL VALLE

PA292243 Panama City Radio Exitosa in Spanish 1257 GMT 29 Sep 85

[Communique issued by Liberal Party in Panama City on 28 September; "signed by most members of the Political Commission" -- read by announcer]

[Text] On 27 September 1985 Nicolas Ardito Barletta resigned as president of the republic. By virture thereof, the Legislative Assembly, complying with the provisions of our political Constitution, summoned Vice President Eric Arturo del Valle and installed him in the post of president of the republic.

Out of respect for the constitutional system, because of its democratic tradition, and because it forms part of UNADE [National Democratic Union], the Liberal Party [PL] considers it necessary to assume its responsibility and to announce its decision in regard to these developments.

It resolves: To acknowledge Ardito Barletta's patriotic efforts, devotion, and endeavors to serve the republic with honesty during his administration; to support President Del Valle's administration in order to contribute to the solution of the problems plaguing the country and to preserve the constitutional system; and to support PL President Roderick Esquivel in his functions as first vice president of the republic.

Issued in Panama City on 28 September 1985

TROOP MOVEMENTS OBSERVED IN PUERTO ARMUELLES

PA031351 Panama City EXTRA in Spanish 3 Oct 85 p 20

[Text] David -- A movement of the Panamanian Defense Forces has been detected in the area of Puerto Armuelles. Trucks with soldiers have been sent to the area known as Limones, which is where troops are stationed on the Costa Rican-Panamanian border.

This newspaper's correspondent observed a 10-wheel vehicle of the Panamanian Guardia [name as published] in Puerto Armuelles, as well as a military helicopter overflying the area. It is said in this town that the troops belong to the "Red Devils" [5th Military Zone Forces], which have reportedly been clashing with paramilitary groups in this area.

EL SALVADOR

REPORTAGE ON INES DUARTE KIDNAPPING

Castillo Front Announces Demands

PA032152 Paris AFP in Spanish 2025 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] San Salvador, 3 Oct (AFP) -- The Pedro Pablo Castillo Front, which has claimed responsibility for kidnapping President Napoleon Duarte's daughter, has presented 10 demands to the Salvadoran Government, demands that deal mainly with political prisoners, in a communique broadcast today by the clandestine Radio Farabundo Marti.

Although the front did not refer to the detention of Ines Duarte and her friend Cecilia Villeda on 10 September, in political circles it was interpreted that the demands are related to the two women's release.

According to the insurgent radio station report, one of the two FMLN radio stations, the kidnapping commando is requesting the immediate release of Costa Rican pilot Julio Romero, who was granted amnesty this week. The document also demands the transfer of Maria Concepcion Valladares, Commander "Nidia Diaz," to the women's penitentiary because she is being held in a cell by the National Police, which is illegal.

The military authorities responsible for the commander of the Revolutionary Party of Central American Workers (PRTC) state that the measure "is for the prisoner's own safety."

The demands also request the demilitarization of the penal centers, the prohibition of the entrance of members of the security forces in hospitals where there are political prisoners, and the elimination of the visitors' registration list at jails. The demands also include the abolition of the law of penal procedures, applicable to the suspension of guarantees imposed by Decree No. 500, and other laws judged repressive.

They also demand the hastening of interviews between the board of directors of the Committee of Political Prisoners with authorities at penal centers and an end to the threats and attacks on relatives of political prisoners.

Meanwhile, there have been increased reports on the release of prisoners, but the Committees of Mothers of Prisoners, Missing, and Murdered persons have denied any knowledge of this situation.

The government is maintaining its silence regarding the negotiations it is carrying out on the kidnapping of Jose Napoleon Duarte's daughter. It is not known if contacts between the sides have resumed.

Government Expects New Contracts

PA032050 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 2 Oct 85 p 3

[Text] The government expects new contracts with the kidnappers of Ines Guadalupe Duarte after granting absolute amnesty to Costa Rican pilot Julio Santiago Romero Talavera, who had been sentenced to 25 years in prison by a court martial on charges of terrorism.

Official sources are observing absolute silence regarding this case, citing as the reason for the amnesty the repeated efforts by Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge and other organizations on behalf of Talavera. Other sources, however, revealed that Talavera is one of the people sought by the kidnappers, members of the "Pedro Pablo Castillo" Front.

The government denies any negotiations but admits there are contacts. The communications minister, Julio Adolfo Rey Prendes, told reporters that according to a news agency the last contact was made on 20 September.

Other circles revealed that the kidnappers are demanding the release of 33 prisoners but that the government has not entered into any negotiation because, not having the list of the people wanted by the kidnappers, it has been unable to determine who are actually subject to military courts or what their situations are.

Commenting on the kidnappers, Rey Prendes said they do not belong to the extreme right or any dissident group of the FMLN, such as the "Clara Elizabeth Ramirez Front."

Rey Prendes showed the reporters a leaflet found pasted on the walls of some buildings in Chalatenango towns such as Comalapa and La Laguna, referring to the "Pedro Pablo Castillo" Front, which is believed to belong to the FMLN, an allegation which has been denied.

Meanwhile, the president of the Legislative Assembly's pardon committee, Deputy Ricardo Edmundo Burgos, said the committee is studying an amnesty project submitted by the Committee of Mothers of Prisoners and Missing people.

Ines Guadalupe Duarte Duran and her friend, Ana Cecilia Villedas, will have been held 1 month on 10 October.

Four Political Prisoners Released

PA040026 Paris AFP in Spanish 2343 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] San Salvador, 3 Oct (AFP) -- The Salvadoran Government has released at least four political prisoners in the past 24 hours in order to try to obtain the freedom of President Napoleon Duarte's eldest daughter, who was kidnapped on 10 September, official sources disclosed today. Meanwhile, government spokesmen have refused to make any comment on this action, which is the second the government has carried out to obtain Ines Guadalupe Duarte's freedom.

This week the Legislative Assembly also approved amnesty for Julio Romero Talavera, a Costa Rican political prisoner and one of the 33 political prisoners whose freedom has been demanded by the guerrilla group Pedro Pablo Castillo Front, which kidnapped Duarte's daughter. Official sources have refused to release any information on this case, on which they still maintain tight secrecy.

Romero Talavera, sentenced to 25 years for terrorism by a military court, will be leaving prison in the next few days, once the amnesty decree the Legislative Assembly passed at the request of the executive branch goes into effect.

The identity of the four released prisoners has not yet been disclosed. According to official sources, the names were turned over to the International Red Cross, which is also maintaining absolute silence on the case.

For their part, members of the Committee of Mothers of Political Prisoners said they have unofficial reports to the effect that the prisoners had been released.

Meanwhile, the Armed Forces Press Committee has been silent in the past few days, despite the fact that other military sources have admitted there have been clashes with the rebels. It was learned on Wednesday that the Army carried out two ambushes near Santiago de Maria, in southeastern El Salvador, leaving 8 rebels dead, 14 wounded, and 10 captured.

According to a communique issued today by the clandestine Radio Venceremos, the "Pedro Pablo Castillo" guerrilla command has presented 10 petitions to the Salvadoran Government that deal particularly with political prisoners.

Released Pilot To Be Repatriated

PA022340 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] During a government council this morning President Luis Alberto Monge appointed Deputies Jorge Arturo Monge Zamora and (Hector Ugalde Alvarez), of the Social Christian Unity and National Liberation Parties respectively, to go to San Salvador specifically to coordinate all tasks related to the repatriation of Costa Rican pilot Julio Santiago Romero Talavera. Romero Talavera was granted amnesty by a decree of the Salvadoran Legislative Assembly.

Reports received from the Costa Rican Foreign Ministry indicate that Romero Talavera requested diplomatic protection because extremist groups might try to kill him.

President Monge assigned the deputies the special mission of going to El Salvador to complete the necessary procedures and to transfer Julio Romero Talavera to Costa Rica. Romero Talavera has been in jail in El Salvador since 1981, serving a 25-year sentence for alleged involvement in arms smuggling with Salvadoran guerrillas.

The deputies will go to San Salvador in the next few days to carry out the mission assigned to them by the president.

Guerrillas' Whereabouts Sought

PA040312 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0206 GMT 4 Oct 85

[By Cristina Hasbun de Merino]

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 3 Oct (ACAN-EFE) -- The Salvadoran Government is still trying to determine the whereabouts of several rebels who could be exchanged for the daughter of President Jose Napoleon Duarte, who was kidnapped on 10 September. Official sources have not disclosed the nature of the efforts made to secure the release of Ines Guadalupe Duarte, 35, who was kidnapped in San Salvador along with classmate Ana Cecilia Villeda, 23.

Reliable sources told ACAN-EFE today that the government has made efforts to either locate or obtain information on several guerrillas supposedly taken prisoner by the Army and reported missing. These efforts are related to the kidnappers' demands. According to unofficial sources, the kidnappers of Duarte's daughter have demanded that the government release 34 guerrillas allegedly held prisoner.

According to these reports, the list of rebels to be exchanged is headed by Commander Nidia Diaz, leader of the Revolutionary Party of Central American Workers (PRTC) who has been held in a security prison since 18 April.

Radio Venceremos, official voice of the FMLN, today commented on the situation of the Costa Rican pilot Julio Romero Talavera -- who has been granted amnesty by the Salvadoran Legislative Assembly -- but did not specifically mention the kidnapping of Duarte's daughter.

The leftist radio station said that the Costa Rican pilot has testified before the Committee of Mothers and Relatives of Political Prisoners, Missing and Murdered People in El Salvador, saying that he was tortured.

Sources consulted unofficially have said that the list includes Janeth Samour [Commander Filomena] and Maximina Reyes, who were captured in San Miguel Department on 30 December. ACAN-EFE has learned unofficially that the International Red Cross has made efforts recently to determine whether two unidentified women found buried in Nueva Guadalupe, San Miguel Department, were Samour and Reyes.

So far no organization has publicly claimed responsibility for the kidnapping of Duarte's daughter, but the culture and communications minister has asserted that the government is increasingly inclined to believe that the FMLN abducted her.

FMLN-FDR LETTER PROPOSES TRANSITION GOVERNMENT

PA021948 San Salvador Channel 12 Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 30 Sep 85

["Up to Date" program -- monitored in progress]

[Text] ...from the FMLN-FDR which the National Reconciliation Party [PCN] received during a PCN forum called Options for Peace, which was held last week. Carlos Armando Rivera talked to PCN Secretary General Hugo Carrillo.

[Begin recording] [Rivera] The groups comprising the FMLN-FDR forwarded a proposal to create a transition government, which would include all of the country's political sectors, to the closing session of the PCN forum called Option for Peace. We questioned acting PCN Secretary General Hugo Carrillo on this issue.

[Carrillo] The [FMLN-FDR] letter contains two aspects. One acknowledges our effort to hold this forum with the participation of representatives from several sectors of our country. In addition, they reiterate their views on the matters discussed during the Ayagualo meeting, as well as other related matters. The PCN cannot comment on the letter's content because it would have to be studied by the PCN. Since we received it on Saturday, we cannot yet comment on it.

[Rivera] Another point in the letter is that the guerrillas and the Army should keep their weapons temporarily, until the problem concerning the two armies is settled.

[Carrillo] On this issue, which was included in the letter, the PCN has not adopted a stance. Therefore, we cannot comment on it. As I said, the letter was received on Saturday and was to be read during the forum. They asked us to read it at the forum. We agreed only to read it. Unfortunately, I cannot comment on the contents of the letter.

[Rivera] Will the letter be submitted to the Legislative Assembly to be debated?

[Carrillo] No. The request was that we read it during the forum, and we complied gladly.

[Rivera] The PCN Executive Council will study the FMLN-FDR letter, to comment on it at a later date. [end recording]

The FMLN-FDR letter was sent to the PCN Directorate during the forum called Options for Peace, and here are its recommendations:

A) The creation of a transition government with the participation of the social forces that espouse a political solution. We do not ask the current government to resign, but rather to join the other forces to implement the agreements.

B) The two belligerent forces are to keep their weapons during a transition period, while the problem of the existence of two armies must be settled.

C) The transition government would be in charge of ensuring compliance with the peace agreement, solving the war problems still pending, and human rights. In this manner the people will be able to choose freely the road they will follow from this point through what would be the first democratic elections in Salvadoran history.

The letter was signed by Jorge Shafick Handal, for the FMLN, and Guillermo Ungo, for the FDR.

HONDURAS

NOTE REJECTS SANDINIST CONTRA ALLEGATIONS

PA031331 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1140 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] On behalf of the Honduran Government, the acting foreign secretary yesterday rejected charges of aggression made by a spokesman of the Sandinist government. Jose Tomas Arita Valle sent Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco [title as heard] the following message:

Tegucigalpa, Central District
2 October 1985
Mr Minister:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your note No. 148, dated today, which was sent via telex and in which you alert the Honduran authorities about preparations of the alleged mercenary forces that will provoke clashes between our two countries. It is also said that there are three battalions and three companies of the Honduran Armed Forces near the border area. This new protest note is undoubtedly another step in the international propaganda campaign the Nicaraguan Government is waging, despite the fact that it is very well aware of the Honduran Government's firm determination to support the efforts of the Contadora Group.

We believe this is just another coarse manuever to mar the meeting of the Contadora plenipotentiaries, to begin in Panama on Monday, 7 October. Your government continues the dangerous game of bold accusations and is very insolent in involving the Honduran Armed Forces in issues that are part of the domestic affairs of the Nicaraguan Government. Or is it that the Honduran Armed Forces do not have any constitutional obligation to defend the country's territory?

My government flatly rejects such bold charges and urges your government to remain within the negotiations sponsored by the Contadora Group, which are the true channels for solving the Central American crisis, and not continue with this ill-intentioned international publicity against the Honduran Government and people. Please accept, Mr Minister, the token of my highest consideration.

[Signed] Jose Tomas Arita Valle, acting secretary

MINISTRY STATEMENT RAPS ANTI-SUAZO 'CAMPAIGN'

PA030406 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Statement issued by the Presidency Ministry's Office of Information; date not given]

[Text] The Honduran Goverrment has watched with apprehension the slanderous and reckless campaign that two local newspapers have fanned against President Roberto Suazo Cordova. The 30 September edition of TIEMPO, which is published in San Pedro Sula, contained a statement by former head of state General Juan Alberto Melgar Castro, who is now the president of the Central Committee of the National Party of Honduras [PNH]. He said there is a plot among Ricardo Zuniga followers and Roberto Suazo Cordova to disqualify [presidential candidates] Jose Azcona del Hoyo and Rafael Leonardo Callejas.

The article, by newswoman Vilma Gloria Rosales, also quotes Gen Melgar Castro as saying that the Zuniga faction is in league with Roberto Suazo Cordova to make the PNH delegate to the National Electoral Tribunal go along with the two Liberal Party delegates in order to disqualify Azcona and Callejas.

There are other comments by Gen Melgar Castro which reflect the questionable bias of his feelings when confronted with the facts, as when he said: We are not going to let Zuniga regain control of the PNH as in the past. Gen Melgar Castro's statement -- if it has been accurately quoted by the author of the article -- points to the existence of an accusatory panel made up of spokesmen for the Azcona and Callejas political currents for that same objective. The concepts expressed in such a campaign, filled with reckless and offensive statements, demand that its authors give clear explanations or that they be required to present evidence to corroborate those unwarranted comments.

The unfortunate family situation which Ricardo Zuniga Augustinus is experiencing is well known, as is his force withdrawal from politics. Likewise, President Roberto Suazo Cordova's stance when he withdrew from the coordination of the Rodista Liberal Movement and from the Liberal Party was widely reported. Therefore this campaign is groundless. It stems solely from unbridled political ambition which has become unleashed in the face of the next elections by people who, unconcerned about joining hands with their rivals, seek only to quench their thirst for power.

PLANNING OFFICIAL REPORTS ON EUROPEAN TOUR

PA022007 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 30 Sep 85

[Excerpts] A Honduran economic mission obtained important financial agreements during visits to several European countries last week.

The national delegation met with representatives of some EEC countries and obtained more than 40 million lempiras in financial resources. Daniel Meza Palma, executive secretary of the Higher Council of Economic Planning, reports on the results of these talks.

[Begin recording] The mission that traveled to Europe some days ago had the essential objective of holding consultations with the FRG Government. In the specific case of the FRG, we obtained financial cooperation worth FM 28 million and technical cooperation worth DM 8 million for the rest of 1985 and 1986.

In addition to meeting with Italian Government officials and receiving their offer to send tourism Minister Lagorio to Honduras in about 6 months to discuss more fully Italian cooperation, we also visited the FAO headquarters, where we met with its director general. We discussed projects that the FAO is carrying out in Honduras and future programs that the Honduran Government is interested in.

We then visited Spain, where we met with the minister of cooperation for Latin America, who is also director of the Institute for Cooperation with Latin America. He expressed the Spanish Government's desire to expand cooperation at the regional level and specifically in Honduras. We spoke about the priority fields for future cooperation. These include agriculture, cooperatives, local public administration, education, and health. We will have to specify the projects within these four broad fields in which we have special interest. We also discussed future cooperation in the tourism field. [end recording]

NICARAGUA

GOVERNMENT BANS DEFERRED BROADCASTS OF MASS

PA030252 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1939 GMT 1 Oct 85

[By Filadelfo Martinez]

[Text] Managua, 1 Oct (ACAN-EFE) -- A spokesman for the church announced today that the Sandinist government has prohibited the deferred transmission over Radio Catolica of Masses at which Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo officiates.

Msgr Bismarck Carballo, director of Radio Catolica and spokesman for the Archdiocese of Managua, sent a letter to Nicaraguan Interior Minister Commander Tomas Borge protesting what he called a "violation of freedom of worship and expression."

In the letter the ecclesiastical official reported that the Directorate of the Media of the Interior Ministry told Radio Catolica via telephone that deferred transmission of the mass at which Cardinal Obando y Bravo officiated last weekend in the northern city of Matagalpa was forbidden.

Msgr Carballo said that on Wednesday Radio Catolica was raided by two armed officials who "abusively interrupted the transmission of the sermon that the cardinal delivered in Matagalpa."

The spokesman for the church added that the militarymen acted "without presenting any legal document authorizing their action."

"We are concerned (about the ban), Mr Minister," the letter says, "because we understand that contacts have been made at the highest level and that you have guaranteed respect for the right of the church's radio station to carry out its evangelizing mission."

"We are deeply concerned about the fact that the Directorate of Communications Media has informed us by telephone that the Holy Mass will be censored before it can be transmitted on a deferred basis," Msgr Carballo told Borge.

The director of Radio Catolica demanded that the Sandinist authorities respect the church's right and freedom to spread the Gospel by means of the radio station.

The Managua government alleges that, by virtue of the state of national emergency that has been in effect since March 1982, it has the right to forbid live broadcasts by the country's radio stations, including Radio Catolica.

Obando y Bravo has been making a series of visits to dioceses in the interior of the country since Pope John Paul II made him a cardinal in late May.

In his sermons the cardinal has insisted on the need for a national dialogue to be held in Nicaragua as a path for finding "true peace, based on justice and love."

TIRADO LOPEZ OUTLINES 'SURVIVAL ECONOMY'

PA280012 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Sep 85

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Victor Tirado Lopez has urged the working class to be more lenient in its demands for salary hikes in view of the difficulties the country is experiencing as a result of the imperialist aggressive war. Tirado added that military defense tasks have priority in the Nicaraguan survival economy. Speaking before the workers at the (?Fanatex) enterprise, Tirado added that the working class must strive to prevent direct aggression, strengthening the military and economic potential of the republic with their work.

[Begin Tirado Lopez recording] We have discovered an economic concept called the survival economy. To survive is an economic concept. We must survive so that the future will be better, so that the new generation will have a future of surplus, of plenty. We are not going to enjoy that future of plenty, but we are going to work. We are going to work more than necessary, more than our capacity for producing. Sometimes we are faced with some political tasks from other leftist, Marxist-Leninist, revolutionary, socialist, or conservative sectors that outline certain tasks so that the worker will then reduce his production rather than improve production in view of the salary policy.

All great countries have a highly productive economy due to their working class, which increased productivity, but not based on the classic support of a certain number of work hours. That is why those countries emerged from their underdevelopment. That is why those countries progress; that is why those countries are great economic powers. Without work there cannot be development. Work should not be considered enemy number one. [end recording]

JAIME WHEELOCK COMMENTS ON COTTON DISEASE

PA021331 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 30 Sep 85 p 5

[Excerpts] A full program to fight the plant disease xantonoma, which is affecting cotton plantations in the western part of the country, will consist of improving the Cotton Experimental Center, CEA, of Posoltega and establishing a phytopathology laboratory, which we do not presently have, Commander Jaime Wheelock, agricultural development and agrarian reform minister, has announced.

He also reported that a biological control program will be implemented and that cotton producers will be asked to use more resistant varieties.

Commander Wheelock accepted part of the responsibility for the situation, because one of the recommendations for 1985 production was that the seeds be subjected to a chemical process that would have controlled at least 90 percent of the disease. Instead, mechanical methods were used. This is the third time the disease has occurred. The first time was in 1950 and the second in 1963. On those occasions we had to obtain a more resistant strain to counteract the disease.

A main contributing factor of the disease is the fact that it was allowed to develop under favorable conditions, that is during an irregular rainy season.

In conclusion, Commander Wheelock said that only 500 of the 50,000 manzanas of cotton in the western part of the country have been seriously damaged.

LA PRENSA PONDERS U.S. INVITATION TO LEGISLATORS

PA021636 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 26 Sep 85 p 5

[Unattributed commentary: "Change in U.S. Policy?"]

[Text] Local political analysts are surprised at the State Department's invitation to four Nicaraguan National Assembly members belonging to different political parties whose ideologies range from the red Marxist-Leninist (Luis Sanchez Sancho of the Socialist Party) to the green dissident conservative (Felix Pedro Espinosa Briones, a former member of the Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua who is now a member of a Green Party [Conservative Party] faction). They assert that such an invitation is a change in State Department policy, which until now had been hostile to the Sandinist regime. The legitimacy of the National Assembly is thus implicitly recognized by Mr Reagan's government.

When asked to expand on their statement and provide a basis for it, these political analysts referred to the elections of November 1984 (less than a year ago), when the government party accused the U.S. Embassy of recommending a boycott of the elections by top authorities. On that occasion the official press noted publicly that that position was a determining factor in the abstention of the PLI [Independent Liberal Party] (which in the end did not work out because of the ploy of Tino Pereira) and the Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua (which did not work out either, as Dr Guido ran in the elections despite his convention's majority wish not to participate).

Our analysts, who did not want their names published in this paper, said that the State Department's invitation to National Assembly deputies undoubtedly means a change in course, "a 180-degree swing," nothing surprising in the confusing and vacillating U.S. policy. Moreover, one of them said: "This official recognition by the Yankee embassy of an official branch of the FSLN government definitely confirms the mistake by those who, believing in Mr Reagan's seriousness, abstained from participating in last year's elections."

Commentary Termed 'Open Confession'

PA030449 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1300 GMT 29 Sep 85

["Beyond the News" segment by Eligio Alvarez Montalban]

[Text] The newspaper LA PRENSA published an article on page 5 of last Thursday's edition, and we would not hesitate to describe it as very curious except that it represents an open confession that its directorate has been deceived by the U.S. Embassy in our country, or -- in any case -- that its editorial guidelines have been totally wrong in their analysis of the political situation in Nicaragua.

In fact, the newspaper -- whose installations are located on the Northern Highway -- includes in the article, which was published under the headline "Change in U.S. Policy?," statements by local positical analysts who were surprised by the U.S. Department of State's invitation to four members of the Nicaraguan National Assembly belonging to four political parties. These include Luis Sanchez Sancho, of the Marxist-Leninist Popular Action Party.

One does not have to be a sharp observer to understand that the contents of the much-publicized article were devised at LA PRENSA's editorial desk with the collaboration of the ophthalmologist and politicker whom everyone knows. He always plays the hypocrite, so he did not dare do it in his usual column, "Chatting With the Editors," to avoid a conflict with his buddies at the embassy.

The analysts consulted by the newspaper in question asserted that this invitation undoubtedly indicates a change of course, a 180-degree turn, which is not strange in the confused and vacillating U.S. policy. One of them, possibly the wise ophthalmologist and politicker, added that the Yankee embassy's official recognition of the FSLN's organization fully confirms the mistake of those who believed in Mr Reagan's seriousness and abstained from participating in the elections last November. If a party admits its own guilt, there is no need to look for further evidence against it.

The old repentant conservatives seem to forget the historic occasion of 1928, when the U.S. Government decided to cast off its coat and discard its old conservative ally, transferring power to the Liberal Party. We do not state this because we have fallen for and believe the idiocy that the U.S. Department of State invited Luis Sanchez Sancho as a result of a radical change in its policy toward Nicaragua. This can be believed only by those who have been hesitant and undecided all their lives, devoid of patriotism and propriety. They will never cease to believe, as long as they live, that the U.S. Department of State is the one which designates who will govern our homeland.

Likewise, Messrs Repentant Conservatives, the invitation to Luis Sanchez Sancho and company -- through the U.S. Department of State -- does not alter one iota the Reagan administration's imperialist policy. In our opinion it is aimed only at adding to the confusion of those who hesitate, meaning those dumb conservative politickers who continue to view Washington as the mecca of their presidential dreams -- by virtue of a miracle of the Virgin of Cuapa.

MISATAN LEADER ON ATLANTIC AUTONOMY PLAN

PA030023 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] During a news conference held yesterday the Organization of Nicaraguan Miskitos, Misatan, made public a communique in which the Atlantic coast communities express their views and contributions to the Atlantic coast's autonomy plan. The communique states that all the Atlantic coast Indians are pleased with the cease-fire between Misura [Miskitos, Sumus, and Ramas] and Misurasata [Miskito, Sumu, and Rama Sandinist Unity] forces because this guarantees that the coastal people will be able to demand their historical rights as included in the autonomy plan that is being discussed. The communique adds that after studying the autonomy plan, they have reached the conclusion that there is no direct Indian participation in the administration of the Atlantic coast; therefore, a broader and more coherent policy on the part of the government is needed. This policy must include the most urgent needs of the Atlantic coast people. The Misatan leaders who held the news conference for the national press read each of the points included in the list of demands made by the Indian communities and which has been sent to Nicaraguan President Commander Daniel Ortega. The Indian communities expect a reply to this document by 18 October.

One of the points included in the list of demands presented by Misatan to the revolutionary government is that Misura and Misurasata be given legal status in the hope that in the future these two organizations will unite and form a single Indian organization. During yesterday's news conference Oscar Hodgson, Misatan and Indigenous Peoples' Regional Coordinating Board, CORPI, leader, was asked if an agreement had been reached among the leaders of the armed organizations regarding such a possibility. Hodgson said:

[Begin recording] We know that the members of KISAN [Unity of the Nicaraguan Atlantic Coast Peoples] were summoned to a meeting in Miami. A majority of the leaders abroad attended the meeting. Prior to this meeting it had been agreed that a single organization would be created and that it would be called Asla [Miskito word for unity]. However, some contradictions arose among the leaders in Honduras. We believe that this problem was caused because of the pressure exerted by UNO [Nicaraguan Opposition Unity]. UNO is an organization led by Arturo Cruz, Alfonso Robelo, and another counter-revolutionary. The pressure must have affected the meeting held in Honduras.

The Misurasata leaders who attended the meeting were not well received by the majority of the leaders attending. However, we wish to say that the commanders who have been inside the country have been in contact with Misatan. Misitan has been advancing in the work toward pacification; therefore it is only logical that Misatan should have something to say about the cease-fire. This is something that should be done, and it is important to point out that it is also important to demand the rights of the people. The communique mentions these rights as a guarantee for peace. The right of the Indian people has been expressed by the Indian communities.

Therefore, Misura, Misurasata, KISAM, and Misatan must respect what the communities want. We feel that Misurasata has been acting against some of the objectives established in Honduras. Brooklyn Rivera is at this moment in the city of Colombia [as heard], where he has been talking with President Belisario Betancur to decide on future dialogue with the government.

However, we feel that peace cannot be the result of a dialogue between Misurasata and the government, or between Misatan or any other organization. We believe that peace depends on the communities, and we have called for unity among all the leaders to speak to the government and continue to advance in the current process of autonomy. [end recording]

LEADER URGES INDIANS' EXEMPTION FROM SMP

PA022335 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] In an exclusive interview with "Radio Information" newscast, Rufino Lucas, a Miskito leader of Misatan (Organization of Nicaraguan Miskitos], said that Miskitos join Misura [Miskitos, Sumus, and Ramas] and Misurasata Miskito, Sumu, and Rama Sandinist Unity], not for political-ideological reasons or because of anti-Sandinism, but because of their respect for family ties. In an extensive statement Lucas, who is responsible for Misatan's juridical and legal affairs, explains to the Nicaraguan people through this interview why his organization is asking the revolutionary government to exempt the Indian communities from complying with the SMP [Patriotic Military Service].

[Begin Lucas recording -- in progress]... between the Indians who are up in arms and the Indians who are living in the communities. On the other hand, the rebels are the sons and brothers of youths who are living in the communities. Thus, there existed this conflict, and therefore when there began to be pressure for military service, the townspeople on the Atlantic coast in the Indian communities considered this to be coercion, and instead of shooting at their Indian brothers prefered to join the ranks of Misura and Misurasata.

In addition, there were the errors that the FSLN committed at times in 1981 and 1982 against the Indian people on the Atlantic coast, primarily against the Miskitos. Those wounds have still not healed. They are just beginning to heal, but they still exist. Of course, the FSLN has now admitted those errors, but those wounds have still not healed for the Indian people.

The important thing is to begin new stages, passive states, such as the CDS [Sandinist Defense Committee], civil defense, the MSP [Sandinist People's Militias], the volunteer police force, and all that, UNAG [National Union of Farmers and Cattlemen], ATC [Farm Workers Association], and the CDS [as heard]. All of these should be organized. Other organizations and new formats should be created to raise the consciousness of youths, so that they will become involved in defense efforts by conviction.

However, the conditions are not right at this time. There has to be a beginning. We suggest that organizations begin to be created; organizations, for example, such as forest rangers, volunteer policemen, or health brigades, participating in the people's health campaigns. Work groups could begin to function, for example, to contribute to consciousness-raising activities and, as a result of these efforts, the consciousness of the population will be raised. When that stage is over, the people's militias could be formed, and then the phase of military service could come later. This is why we explained our position in the press release and in the statement that we issued last week.

MALMIERCA WARNS OF SOUTH AFRICAN-ANGOLAN WAR

FL040120 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] At the United Nations today, Cuba warned of the possibility that South Africa may provoke a major armed confrontation with Angola with unforeseeable consequences. He demanded the application of sanctions against the racist Pretoria regime without further delay.

When he addressed the UN Security Council, Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca accused the United States of encouraging such actions with its political, diplomatic, economic, and military support of South Africa.

The UN Security Council meeting was called by Angola because of recent acts of aggression by South Africa against Angola. Malmierca stressed that the recent South African attacks on Angola are an attempt to save the mercenary bands of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] and distract international attention from the explosive internal situation of South Africa.

Commentary Hits S. Africa Policy

PA020429 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Sep 85

["World Events" commentary]

[Text] The Pretoria authorities have been announcing since May the withdrawal of its troops from Angola. Even Roelof Botha, South African foreign affairs minister, has said that South Africa keeps increasing its presence in that zone and it will continue using Namibia as a parade ground from where it can launch attacks on neighboring countries and support the counterrevolutionary bands operating against Mozambique and Angola.

No one is fooled by the lies fabricated by the South African authorities. The authorities of Pretoria have confirmed to the world with their actions the aggressive character of their policy and the falseness of their statements.

We must not forget that after announcing its withdrawal from southern Angola, a South African command tried to sabotage the oil installations in Cabinda Province. In the meantime, apartheid regime troops launched another attack on Angola under the pretext of chasing after alleged SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] guerrillas. The truth is entirely different.

What the racist South African regime is trying to do is to help the bands of UNITA so that they can continue their counterrevolutionary activities against the Angolan people and government so as to divert international attention away from South Africa's internal conflict, which includes strong police repression that has left more than 700 dead so far this year among the black citizens of that country, who refuse to continue living under the racial segregation system.

Regarding Mozambique, the Pretoria authorities are carrying out the same aggressive policy. In 1984, the two countries signed the Nkomati Nonaggression Accord in which they agreed not to carry out any air, sea, or land attack against a neighboring country. However, on 19 September, Samora Machel, the president of Mozambique, submitted irrefutable evidence found in the diary of a counterrevolutionary commander which confirms South Africa's persistent aid to the so-called Mozambican National Resistance, which operates against the Government of Mozambique.

In view of the evidence, Foreign Minister Roelof Botha had to admit that the Pretoria authorities had violated the Nkomati Accord by continuing to give financial and military support to those bands.

These flagrant violations by the South African racists have at all times enjoyed U.S. support, which, under the pretext of its constructive agreement policy, continues supporting the government of Pieter Botha to maintain neocolonialism in the African Continent and to guarantee its economic and strategic interests in that part of the world.

The U.S. Government support to Pretoria was clearly demonstrated when the U.S. Congress annulled the Clark amendment, which prohibited the United States from giving any aid to UNITA's puppet bands in Angola.

The South African racists' genocidal actions have also reached Zimbabwe. Prime Minister Robert Mugabe recently reported that the Pretoria authorities were recruiting and arming elements opposed to the Government of Zimbabwe, to force the country to stop supporting SWAPO, the OAU National Liberation Fund, and the National African Congress of South Africa.

None of the actions carried out by the Pretoria authorities, nor all the economic and diplomatic aid that the regime of Pieter Botha has received from the United States, will destabilize the legitimate governments of the southern part of Africa, nor change the logical course of history. The people of those countries will never allow a return to neocolonialism.

FOREIGN MINISTER URGES DEBT CANCELLATION AT UN

FL031249 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] United Nations -- Cuba has reaffirmed that the Third World foreign debt should be cancelled as proposed on the establishment of a new international economic order. During a speech at UN headquarters to the group of 77, Cuban Foreign Minister Isidora Malmierca reiterated the position of Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, that a solution to the urgent problem of the debt will always be limited and temporary if the structures that generate these economic deformities are not transformed.

MINISTRY STATEMENT ON ISRAELI ATTACK ON PLO

FL032148 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1803 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Relations has issued the following declaration on the Israeli Zionist aggression against PLO headquarters in Tunis:

With great indignation, our people have learned of the new piratical act carried out by the Zionist government of Israel against PLO headquarters in the Republic of Tunisia. This new criminal aggression carried out against the PLO involves a flagrant violation of the most elementary norms of international law in that it was carried out without regard for the territorial integrity and sovereignty of an Arab state, the Republic of Tunisia.

This act of vandalism once again makes manifest the policy of state terrorism carried out by the Government of Israel, which represents an insult to the international community, which has witnessed with indignation the manner in which Israel -- with complete confidence and under the pretext of carrying out a so-called act of reprisal against the Palestinian people, which is struggling for its inalienable rights -- has inflicted great loss of human life upon the peaceful citizens of Tunis.

Once again, the Israeli Government enjoys the complete and unconditional support and complicity of its strategic ally, the U.S. Government, which, in contrast with all the countries of the international community including its own allies, tries to justify this crime by describing it as a legitimate counterattack.

This sustained support of the Israeli regime by U.S. imperialism encourages it repeatedly to show its total contempt for world public opinion. Acts such as this, and the complicity of the principal imperialist power with its perpetrators, encourage illegality and total disrespect for civilized norms governing international relations, and encourage terrorist acts and the indiscriminate use of force.

The Ministry of Foreign Relations of the Republic of Cuba strongly condemns this new crime perpetrated by the Zionist government of Israel and alerts the international community to the imperious need to stop those acts, which are harmful to all the norms of international law accepted by all nations in the charter of the United Nations organization.

GUAMAO DEFENSIVE EXERCISE TO BE HELD MID-OCTOBER

FL022344 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1804 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] The Guamao-85 defensive exercise will make it possible to increase substantially the defensive capacity of Pinar del Rio Province and its ability to fight a people's war if necessary. This has been affirmed by Orlando Lugo Fonte, alternate member of the Central Committee and first party secretary in Pinar del Rio, at a planning meeting for Guamao-85, which is scheduled for mid-October.

Lugo stressed the fact that more complex and more dynamic tasks will be carried out this year. In Pinar del Rio Province, partial exercises have begun in all towns. During the last week of October, the FAR Ministry will carry out an inspection to determine whether the province can be declared ready for defense.

BAHAMAS

PINDLING ATTENDS COMMONWEALTH FINANCE MEETING

FL031911 Nassau Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] Prime Minister Pindling will be on his way home from the Commonwealth Finance Ministers Meeting in Maldives. The meeting ended yesterday with an attack by the ministers on protectionism and the call for a big increase on the World Bank's funds to help poor countries. A statement issued after the 3-day meeting said the world economy might plunge into depression if the goals of the free trade were ignored.

BARBADOS

BARROW DISCUSSES DEBT PROBLEM, UNEMPLOYMENT

FL031910 Bridgetown CANA in English 1809 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] London, England, Oct 3, CANA -- Barbados parliamentary opposition leader Errol Barrow says he fears as many as 10,000 more Barbadians could lose their jobs, as a result of austerity measures the government may have to introduce to service an increasing foreign debt.

Barrow, Barbados' first prime minister (1966-76), pointed to this possibility in a wide-ranging interview with the West Indian-oriented, London-based weekly, CARIBBEAN TIMES, as he commented on the rising unemployment situation and the severe debt problem facing the Caribbean island.

We in the DLP (Democratic Labour Party) fear for more thousands of jobs when the international banks call for austerity measures to have their loans serviced, the former Barbados prime minister said. What we feel is that based on the present course of the government, as many as 10,000 could be further unemployed. What I mean is that it won't simply be factories closing down, but there could be some civil servants and other public sector employees among that number.

Barrow, 65, questioned the accuracy of the latest official unemployment figure of 19.3 per cent at the end of June, saying the findings of a DLP survey using larger samples point to a figure of between 30 to 35 percent.

Barbados' unemployment level has shot up largely due to retrenchment and lay-offs in the manufacturing sector related to lingering trade difficulties within the Caribbean Community (Caricom), a key export market for Barbadian products.

Barrow, a lawyer, said Barbados today was mortgaged up to the hilt, with an overall national debt of a little more than a billion dollars [one Bds dollar: 50 cents U.S.] compared with what he said was 258 million when the DLP left office in 1976. When we look around, we cannot see where the money has gone. There is little in the country that we did not leave there, he said.

Central Bank Governor Dr Courtney Blackman, in a recent address to Life Underwriters in Bridgetown, put the island's total debt at 942 million dollars at the end of March, of which 762 million accounted for the external public debt. Dr Blackman said Barbados was well within the limits, as its debt was 23.7 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and debt service ratio was 5.7 per cent of total foreign exchange earnings.

Barrow accused the Barbados Labour Party (BLP) administration of not telling the nation the true situation about the economy.

Speaking of how a future DLP administration would go about tackling unemployment, he indicated that a priority would be to reduce utility rates, saying the present cost of water and electricity was much too high. He gave no other details about the programme which the DLP had drawn up to bring a substantial number of new jobs to the island, as well as some of the old ones.

Asked about his health as he prepares to lead the DLP into general elections constitutionally due next year, Barrow, 65, said: Look, I am not an old decrepit individual. Last year, I had some trouble with my leg and so on but, touch wood, I feel quite fine now, and furthermore, I am ready for the battle ahead.

Barrow, along with shadow Minister of Finance Dr Richie Haynes, were in London recently on a private visit.

DOMINICA

PRIME MINISTER LEAVES FOR 3-WEEK TOUR

FL031828 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] Dominica's Prime Minister Eugenia Charles has left for a 3-week visit to Europe, Taiwan, South Korea, New York, and the Bahamas. The Dominican leader will visit London and Brussels to review the island's diplomatic representation in those capitals. Her visit to Taiwan is to promote business opportunities in her country. Miss Charles will attend the World Bank meeting in South Korea this month and will address the United Nations, which is celebrating its 40th anniversary. The prime minister ends her trip with a visit to the Bahamas where she will attend the Commonwealth heads of government conference.

GRENADA

QUEEN ELIZABETH TO OPEN SESSION OF PARLIAMENT

FL022216 Bridgetown CANA in English 2114 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Oct 2, CANA -- Queen Elizabeth will declare open a session of the Grenada Parliament as the main highlight of her 10-hour visit here on October 28, the government announced. The queen, accompanied by her husband, Prince Philip, will make the brief stop here as part of a tour of the English-speaking Caribbean following her opening of a Commonwealth heads of government summit in the Bahamas. After declaring the parliamentary session open, the royal couple will travel to Government House, residence of Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon, where the queen will hold an investiture. At the same time, Prince Philip, the duke of Edinburgh, will present awards to winners in the Duke of Edinburgh's Awards scene. The queen will next host an official luncheon aboard the royal yacht Britannia. She will afterwards attend a public welcome at the Queen Park playing field here and a reception at Government House before the yacht sets sail in the evening.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

OIL CREDIT FACILITY TO GUYANA SUSPENDED

FL301855 Bridgetown CANA in English 1839 GMT 30 Sep 85

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Sep 30, CANA -- Trinidad and Tobago has suspended its oil credit facility to Guyana in view of huge arrears on a U.S. 217 million dollar debt to the twin-island state, a spokesman for the Ministry of Industry and Commerce said.

The credit facility has been replaced by an experimental barter arrangement under which Port-of-Spain will continue to supply Guyana with oil products from October to December in exchange for 3,000 tonnes per month of rice, he added. The spokesman was unable to say what volume or value of oil products is involved in the barter deal.

Trinidad and Tobago supplies nearly all of Guyana's 7,800 barrels per day oil imports, which absorb two thirds of Guyana's export earnings.

Guyanese Planning Minister Haslyn Parris told parliament last week that oil imports cost U.S. 62 million dollars in the first half of 1985, against export income of 99 million dollars. Parris did not mention the suspension of Trinidad's oil facility to Guyana, but he stressed the need to cut back on fuel consumption.

The Guyanese Government gave a hint that the Trinidad oil credit facility had been cancelled earlier this month, when it announced the introduction of a stricter system of trade payments between the two countries, effective October 1. In the future, Guyana's Central Bank will have to guarantee in advance the payment of each trade transaction with Trinidad, an official announcement said.

Any fuel shortage could cause a total breakdown of Guyana's already depressed economy, which depends on oil to generate electricity and fuel the country's vital bauxite industry.

Government efforts to get enough rice for the oil barter deal with Trinidad may be partially responsible for widespread rice shortages in Guyana since August, observers in Georgetown said. Other factors explaining the scarcity of Guyana's staple food are widespread rice smuggling to Suriname and a sharp decline in production. Parris told parliament, in his review of the economy, that rice production slumped 26 per cent in the first half of this year compared to the same period of 1984. He gave no figures.

Meanwhile, government sources in Georgetown said the action by Port-of-Spain has set moves in motion there for a serious reduction in the consumption of petroleum products. Said the state-owned SUNDAY CHRONICLE newspaper yesterday, the necessary response from the Guyana side will have to be a combination of conservation of its use of petroleum products, and an acceleration of its export drive to the twin-island Republic.

According to the DAILY CHRONICLE, beginning tomorrow imports from Trinidad and Tobago will have to be matched by exports to that country. If Guyana is unable to export a sufficient quantity of goods to pay for its imports from Trinidad and Tobago, mainly petroleum products, it will have to pay the balance in Trinidad and Tobago dollars -- its debt in that currency is 500 million dollars. The paper said that in addition to rice, Guyana also exports lumber to Trinidad, and should soon be selling plaintains and pumpkins to that country on a large scale.

Officials in Georgetown said discussions are taking place between officials of the central banks of the two countries. Bank of Guyana Governor Pat Matthews recently flew to Port-of-Spain for discussions with his counterpart and senior financial officials. High level discussions are taking place in the socialist republic with representatives of several corporations and private sector businesses which will be affected by any pruning of fuel imports. Any big cut in the import of petroleum products will affect the operations of the Guyana Electricity Corporation and Guyana industry and transport, and could significantly reduce the quantity of products available for export, officials admitted.

LABOR MOVEMENT STRUGGLE POSTPONES CONFERENCE

FL032040 Bridgetown CANA in English 1855 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Oct 3, CANA -- A struggle for control of the Guyana labour movement has led to the collapse of its umbrella Trades Union Congress (TUC) annual conference, and criticism of the role of the ruling People's National Congress (PNC) in the affair.

In a stunning reversal at last year's conference, the PNC lost its majority on the TUC executive for the first time in 20 years. Last week, an attempt by a PNC-supported union to increase its delegates to the conference led to the abrupt ending of the conference after two days.

According to opposition political sources, the Guyana Workers' Union (GWU) give its membership at the end of 1983 as just over 2,000. Now it is claiming in excess of 6,000. This would have given the GWU 20 delegates instead of nine recommended by the credentials committee, and would have assisted in the PNC's attempt to regain favour in the labour movement, although no elections were scheduled for this conference.

The TUC executive, after some angry exchanges, failed to rule on the issue. A statement said the council needed more time to deal with the problem and the conference was postponed indefinitely. A disappointed TUC General Secretary Joseph Pollydore said: The collapse of the TUC conference is not merely a disagreement on trade union grounds, but other considerations external from that.

In an address at the opening of the meeting, the veteran trade unionist said the political direction or influence of late president and PNC leader Forbes Burnham had in recent years harmed the trade union movement which, paradoxically, he had helped to build. At the time of Burnham's death in August, the TUC was openly divided, Pollydore said. He recalled the embarrassing May Day celebrations, when unions opposing and supporting the PNC held separate rallies in Georgetown.

Of the TUC's 24 member unions, 17, some of them small, support the PNC. However, the others, most of them affiliated to the Marxist opposition People's Progressive Party (PPP), claim majority overall membership, 50,000 out of 80,000 -- including control of the key foreign-exchange-earning bauxite, sugar and rice sectors.

At a pre-conference press briefing, Pollydore appealed for trade union unity, a call he echoed during the conference.

The PPP organ, the MIRROR newspaper, said that the TUC was being held hostage by the struggle for control of the organisation.

In the main address at the opening of the conference, Labour Minister in the shortlived PPP government of 1953 and current President of the Guyana Bar Association Ashton Chase severely criticised the TUC for its marriage with the PNC. The organisation's partnership with government, the longstanding unionist said, had produced a disturbing and distressing situation of wage freeze, high cost-of-living outstripping the minimum wage, rampant crime, economic waste and lack of public accountability.

The conference itself was due to discuss the country's impoverished economy, widespread shortages of basic food items, penalties for blackmarketeering, free and fair elections and a national unity government -- and almost certainly ended in resolutions attacking the government.

Alluding to some of these issues, Pollydore said that the current shortage of rice, of which Guyana is the lone Caricom exporter, had sent the price from a controlled six dollars (one guy dollar: 24 U.S. cents) to blackmarket 14 dollars.

He favoured the importation of wheat flour, one of a wide range of items the government has banned, to force Guyanese to eat local substitutes. People are no longer disturbed over the criticism that buying wheat flour or bread in Guyana is anti-social and unpatriotic. There is no sign that either exhortation or ostracism of the people will change this pattern.

Pollydore said he hoped that by the end of this month, the government would announce a new national minimum wage well above the (daily) 15 dollars. He also urged consideration for increased pensions to sugar workers who now get just 12 dollars a week.

In his speech, Chase said the TUC had gone full circle and the time had come for a critical re-appraisal of its role. He urged the organisation to take the fight for free elections in Guyana, saying this was a prerequisite for restoring morality, self-respect and to moving the nation forward.

The TUC, Chase said, should stop cringing. It should assert itself, resist rather than take flight. Only in this way will the TUC be able to demand and command respect, and perform in the tradition of its founders.

All that happened after the opening ceremony was the bickering on seating accommodation that ensured that the conference never really got started.

According to the MIRROR newspaper, there were repeated claims during the negotiations by some unions that others had bloated their membership to get more delegates at conference to decide on elections and motions favourable to the government. The paper indicated there was heavy lobbying by both sides and said at least one key adviser to President Desomond Hoyte was busy behind-the-scenes.

Amidst all this, the government-owned media said little. In fact, Pollydore was moved to complain about their treatment of TUC activities. The next day, the CHRONICLE newspaper devoted less than 40 words to coverage of the opening session.

It has been an exceptionally difficult 18 months for the TUC, and there must be a cloud hanging over its future. A major blow was the government's rushing through in March 1984 of a fundamental amendment to the labour laws that appeared to weaken the labour movement. Power was given to the president to set public sector wages, and to the state and then PNC-controlled TUC to enter into agreements on behalf of employees who may already be represented by independent unions.

Opposition sources believed this was to pave the way for Guyana to enter loan negotiations with the International Monetary Fund, among whose standard prescriptions is curtailment of public sector spending. Guyana was last May declared ineligible for the IMF funds because of its debt to the institution, part of a larger foreign debt of U.S. 2 billion dollars that the government can hardly expect to repay without some substantial aid agreement.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

JUDGES GRANTED WAGE HIKE, END 3-MONTH STRIKE

FL031652 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] After a 3-month strike, judges in the Dominican Republic have returned to work. The decision to end the strike, which affected courts of all levels, followed President Salvador Jorge Blanco's announcement that a bill granting a wage increase had been made law. President Jorge Blanco also demanded that judges be granted retroactive pay for the 3 months during which they did not receive salaries because of the strike.

ECUADOR

GOVERNMENT TO JOIN CONTADORA SUPPORT GROUP

PA040117 Paris AFP in Spanish 0059 GMT 4 Oct 85

[Text] Quito, 3 Oct (AFP) -- Ecuador has decided to join the group which supports the Contadora Group's search for peace in Central America, it was announced tonight by the foreign ministry. Ecuador will join the support group which is comprised of Peru, Brazil, Argentina, and Uruguay. The Contadora Group is comprised of Mexico, Panama, Venezuela, and Colombia.

CRUDE OIL PRICE RISES TO $26.23 PER BARREL

PA301536 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 27 Sep 85

[Text] The price of Ecuadoran crude oil substantially improved yesterday on the international market when its shipments were sold for $26.23 per barrel. National petroleum production has reached 290,315 barrels per day.

Acting Energy and Mines Minister Fernando Santos Alvite reiterated that Ecuador's request to OPEC for a 100,000-barrel increase in daily production will not have much effect on the market because it is less than 1 percent of the total OPEC production. He said that the Ecuadoran request is necessary for the country. We believe, he said, that OPEC is an organization whose members have always shown solidarity and that in view of a just request like ours, which does not have an overall effect, OPEC will view the request favorably.

It has been reported that at the OPEC meeting in Vienna on 3 October, Ecuador will propose a 100,000-barrel increase in its daily production quota. Regarding the price increase, yesterday's price of Alaskan crude, which acts as an indicator for Ecuadoran petroleum, permitted the sale of Ecuadoran crude at $26.23 per barrel. The Alaska North Lode crude was marketed on the gulf coast at $28.05 per barrel. Ecuador sets its price in accordance with the formula for the floating price in effect for the long-term contracts. According to the data, the price rose $0.19 per barrel from Monday's price of $26.04.